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1923

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE
REGIMENT

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1st BATTALION

Trooping the Colour, Badajos Day, Blackdown, 1923

Frontispiece

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Gt. Br. Army. Sherwood foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment)

1923

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

EDITED BY

COLONEL H. C. WYLLY, C.B.

"To set the Cause above Renown,
To love the Game beyond the Prize."

HENRY NEWBOLT.

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REGIMENTAL ANNUAL

I

BATTLE HONOURS

THE GREAT WAR

THE following two lists represent the "Honours" claimed by the Regimental Battle Honours Committee, the shorter list containing the names suggested for the Colours, the other those earned by the several battalions of the Regiment.

List I

HONOURS CLAIM

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

Gallipoli	1915, 1916
Italy	1918
Aisne	1914, 1918
Neuve Chapelle	
Loos	
Somme	1916, 1918
Ypres	1915, 1917, 1918
St. Quentin Canal (Bellenglise)	
Cambrai	1917, 1918
Pursuit to Mons	

List II

France & Flanders	1914–18	Armentières	1914
Italy	1918	Neuve Chapelle	
Gallipoli	1915–16	Ypres	1915
Egypt	1916	Aubers	
Aisne	1914	Hooge	1915

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Loos
Somme . . . 1916
Albert
Delville Wood
Guillemont
Flers-Courcelette
Morval
Thiepval
Transloy
Ancre Heights
Ancre . . . 1916
Arras . . . 1917
Vimy
Scarpe . . . 1917
Messines . . . 1917
Ypres . . . 1917
Pilckem
Langemarck . . 1917
Menin Road
Polygon Wood
Broodseinde
Poelcapelle
Passchendaele
Cambrai . . . 1917
Somme . . . 1918
St. Quentin
Bapaume . . 1918

Rosiers
Villers Bretonneux
Lys
Bailleul
Kemmel
Scherpenberg
Aisne . . . 1918
Albert . . . 1918
Arras . . . 1918
Scarpe . . . 1918
Droucourt-Queant
Hindenburg Line
Epehy
Canal du Nord
St. Quentin Canal
Beaurevoir
Cambrai . . . 1918
Ypres . . . 1918
Courtrai
Selle
Sambre
Pursuit to Mons
Piave
Suvla
Landing at Suvla
Scimitar Hill
Suez Canal

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II

OUR WAR MEMORIAL

WE take the following account of the opening of the Memorial Tower at Crich on the 6th August from the *Derbyshire Advertiser* of the 10th August :—

" It is doubtful whether, in the whole history of the picturesque village of Crich, so many people have congregated in the narrow streets as on Monday last. The opening of the Memorial Tower erected at the summit of Crich Cliff to the memory of men of all ranks of the Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derbyshire Regiment) who served their country during the Great War attracted a host of people from all parts of the two counties.

" It would, in our opinion, be difficult to discover a more suitable site for such a memorial than the heights of Crich Cliff, standing, as it does, nearly 1000 feet above sea level. The tower can be seen for many miles in almost every direction, and neither resident nor visitor in this part of the country can look upon it without giving a thought to the tremendous sacrifices it commemorates. It dominates the countryside and brings to mind the splendid example of men who bravely answered the call of duty and recked nothing of the consequences.

" The site was granted to the War Memorial Committee on the most generous terms by Major F. C. A. Hurt, of Alderwasley Hall, and the tower, which is by no means pretentious but rather charmingly simple in its design, has a majesty heightened by its commanding position. Overlooking the two counties whose gallant sons it commemorates, the tower is 64 feet high and is surmounted by a dome. The front of the tower, which faces towards Crich and the border of Nottinghamshire, bears a sword of sacrifice and, beneath, the badge

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of the Sherwood Foresters. The following inscription appears over the doorway :—

" ' To the memory of 11,409 men of all ranks of the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) who gave their lives for their King and their Country in the Great War, 1914–1919, and in honour of 140,000 of their Comrades who served during the War in Thirty-two Battalions of the Regiment, this Monument is gratefully erected by the People of the Counties of Nottingham and Derby.'

" ' To remind us of their sacrifice and our duty.'

" The memorial has been erected at a cost of approximately £4000, which has been raised by flag days, etc.

" Another part of the memorial is the provision for deposit in Nottingham and Derby of two suitable books of record in which are inscribed the names of all the fallen, while in each county town is to be placed a tablet referring to the memorial at Crich, and recording the number of men who made the great sacrifice.

The Opening Ceremony

A service of unforgettable solemnity

" The promoters of the scheme could not possibly have chosen a better day than August Bank Holiday on which to hold the opening ceremony. The holiday gave everyone a chance to attend, and the number who availed themselves of this opportunity was remarkably large. From well before lunch-time a continuous stream of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians passed through the streets of Crich towards the town and, with commendable acumen, the local tradesmen and others laid themselves out to cater for the hungry and perspiring visitors. Special trains and chars-a-bancs were run from all parts, and there was a motor-bus service between Crich and Ambergate station.

" By 3.30 the crowd surrounding the foot of the tower had assumed gigantic proportions and still the pilgrims to this elevated shrine came up in a steady stream. The weather was so good that it could not have been improved. A cool breeze

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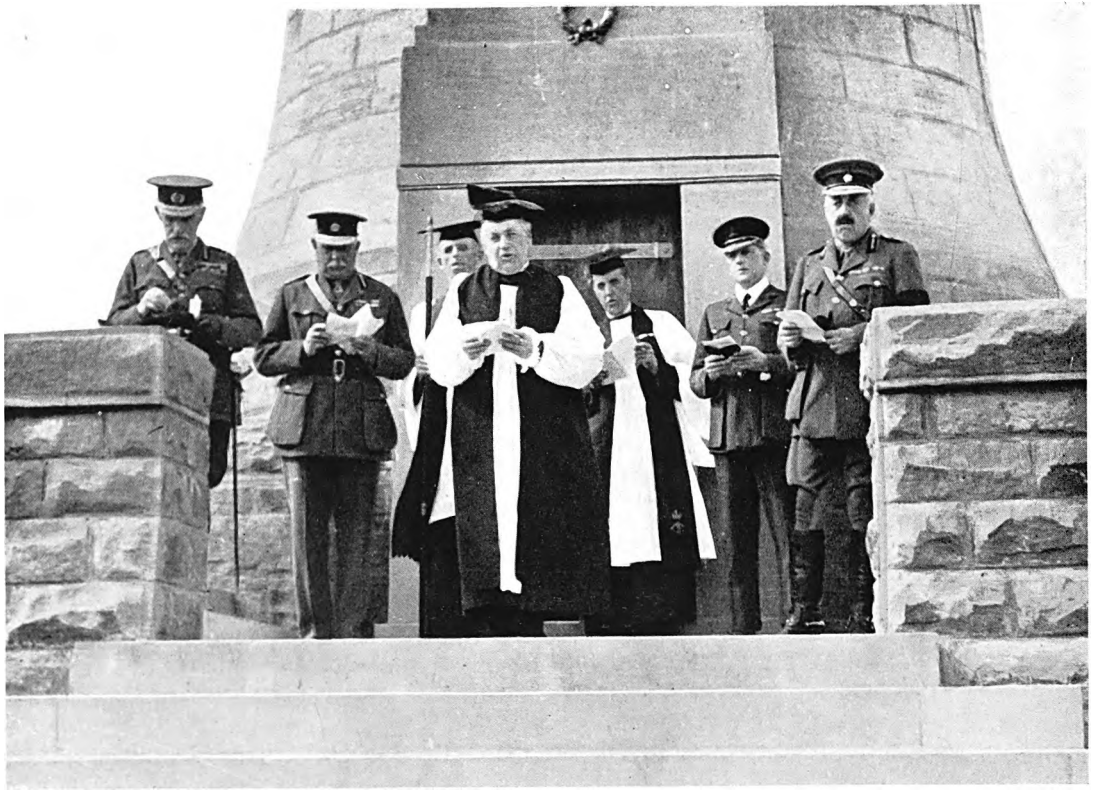

SHERWOOD FORESTERS' MEMORIAL TOWER, CRICH. UNVEILING CEREMONY

Left to right—Gen. Sir H. Smith-Dorrien, the Duke of Portland, the Bishop's Chaplain, Bishop of Southwell, the Rev. Hale, D.S.O., Admiral Salmon, and the Duke of Devonshire

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SHERWOOD FORESTERS' MEMORIAL TOWER, CRICH

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY

Facing p. 5

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swept over the top of the cliff from the infinite space above the valley of the Derwent, and the only drawback was that a low visibility considerably interfered with the enjoyment of the extensive view.

" Many of the male members of the crowd wore war medals, and not a few had the appearance of men still suffering from the effects of the European holocaust. These were the most pathetic of all visitors; poor, broken men who had braved the difficulties of the long and steep climb and, possibly, suffered much pain in the process, that they might be present at the honouring of their lost comrades.

" There was a representative gathering of past and present officers belonging to the Sherwood Foresters, amongst them being Lt.-Col. J. H. Wybergh (commanding the 1st Battalion), Brig.-Gen. J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G. (who formerly commanded the 2nd Battalion), Brig.-Gen. Leveson-Gower, C.M.G., D.S.O. (who commanded the 2nd Battalion during the early part of the war), Lt.-Col. K.C. Weldon, D.S.O. (1st Battalion), Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O. (in command of the Depot at Normanton and Hon. Treasurer of the Memorial Fund), Major.-Gen. C. C. Van Straubenzee, C.B., C.M.G. (commanding the 46th North-Midland Division), Col. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O. (commanding the 139th T.A. Infantry Brigade), Capt. J. D'a Whicher, Lt.-Col. C. E. L. Graham, M.C., Lt.-Col. Rook (commanding the 7th Robin Hoods Battalion), Major H. Bradwell (second in com mand of the Robin Hoods), Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O. (6th Battalion), Lt.-Col. T. C. Newbold (5th Battalion), Lt.-Col. H. E. D. Wise, C.B. (commanding 3rd Battalion), Lt.-Col. R. P. Sadler, Col. Abel Smith, D.S.O., M.C. (8th Battalion), Capt. Willison, D.S.O., M.C. (1st Battalion), Lieut. P. N. White (from the Normanton Depot), Major McGuire (county recruiting officer for Notts), Capt. A. Troops (county recruiting officer for Derbyshire), Capt. Finch, Capt. A. E. Pollard, Capt. and Q.M. J. W. Keith (5th Battalion), Major and Q.M. F. Tyler, Capt. J. W. Marriott, M.C. (17th Battalion), Major B. Checkland (second in command of the 5th Battalion), Major H. E. Franklin, D.S.O., Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O. (1st Battalion, and first Hon. Treasurer of the Memorial Fund), Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C. (Normanton Depot), Capt. and Q.M. McGevor (7th Battalion), Col. H. Mellish (8th Battalion

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and Vice-Chairman of the Notts County Council), and Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts (from the Depot).

"The absence of the 2nd Battalion on foreign service in India prevented that unit from being largely represented. Altogether there were 170 regular troops from the Normanton Barracks, in addition to the band of the 1st Battalion, which came specially from Aldershot, and representatives of the four territorial battalions (5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th) now in camp at Carburton.

"The gathering also included the Bishop of Derby, Mr. E. C. Barnes (Chairman of the Derbyshire County Council), the Mayor of Nottingham (Alderman E. L. Manning), the Mayor of Derby (Alderman O. Ling), the Mayor of Chesterfield (Alderman J. Clarke), the Mayor of Mansfield (Councillor H. Daniels), the Sheriff of Nottingham (Councillor J. Farr), Mr. Barnet Kenyon, M.P., Capt. H. M. Haywood (Chief Constable of Derby), and Major P. F. M. Anley (Chief Constable of Derbyshire).

Opening of the Door

"The ceremony of opening the door of the tower was performed by General Sir Horace L. Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment. The service commenced at four o'clock with the singing of the hymn, 'O valiant hearts, who to your glory came' (John S. Arkwright), the singing being led by the Band of the 1st Battalion. The lesson which followed was Revelation, chapter xxi, verses 1–7 inclusive, and was read by the Rev. A. Stanley Bishop, Hon. Chaplain to the Forces. A golden key was then handed to General Smith-Dorrien by Capt. L. Brewill, who was associated with his late father, Colonel A. W. Brewill, in the designing of the tower, and the door was opened. The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell, D.D., pronounced the dedicatory sentences.

"Amid a great silence the buglers of the 1st Battalion the Sherwood Foresters sounded the 'Last Post,' and then almost everyone in that great and reverent assembly joined in the singing of 'O God, our help in ages past.' This was, perhaps, the most impressive moment of all. When the

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Blessing had been uttered the ' Reveille ' rang out, carrying, as it always does, a note of cheer and hope for the future.

In Sight of All

" The Duke of Portland, K.G., G.C.V.O., asked General Smith-Dorrien to address the assembly. The memorial, he said, was erected, not only in memory of 11,409 gallant and patriotic officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Regiment who lost their lives, but also to commemorate all their comrades, to the number of 140,000, who served in the thirty-two battalions of the Regiment, and to whom, no less than to the dead, we owed an immense debt of gratitude. The monument was designed by the late Colonel A. W. Brewill, whose skill in architecture was as notable as the gallant efficiency with which he commanded the 7th Battalion, the Robin Hoods, for a considerable period during the war. They very deeply regretted that he did not live to see his design translated into concrete reality. The names of those who died were recorded in vellum-bound Books of Remembrance deposited in the Central Public Library of Derby and in the Castle Museum at Nottingham, tablets recording the fact being placed on the front of the Derby Guild Hall and at St. Peter's Church, Nottingham. It was a great gratification that General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien had come. They remembered with pride and gratitude his glorious services at the beginning of the war, and it was most fitting that he, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, should discharge this inaugural function.

" The people of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire approved the site that had been chosen for the monument, and all classes had generously contributed towards the cost of its erection. Built on a hill, it would be seen for many miles in all directions. Here it would stand in the sight of all men and women, reminding them of the valour and patriotism of their countrymen. However long it might endure, it would be a conspicuous and encouraging reminder of the valour and patriotism of the men of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire who served, suffered, and died for their King and Country. When the youths of coming generations asked the meaning of this monument they would

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be thrilled with enthusiasm when the stirring tale of the great war was told ; and should the occasion arise (which, he prayed, might not be the case) they would, he hoped, be inspired to follow the noble example of those who in the Great War shirked no difficulty, shrank from no danger, but were faithful even unto death in their determination to do all that in them lay to uphold the honour, the freedom, and the integrity of our country and our Empire.

'His Beloved Regiment'

"General Smith-Dorrien was received with hearty and enthusiastic cheers. He said the memorial was unique, and it seemed wonderful that, within a month of his giving up active employment in the Army, he should have the great honour of opening the war memorial of his own beloved Regiment. As he looked at the monument his heart swelled with gratitude to the people of the two counties to which the Regiment belonged, for he knew that by their zeal and generosity, from the two Lord-Lieutenants down to the very lowliest they had sustained the sacrifice and heroism of their soldiers. As Colonel of the Regiment he offered heartfelt thanks to all who had helped to bring the memorial about.

"The tower would be a reminder to their children of the 150,000 men who, leaving hearth and home, underwent hardships with marvellous endurance, and gave themselves body and soul to the Empire, which was struggling to save the world from an unscrupulous and insidious foe. It did not represent the whole of the men who went from the two counties, for there were large numbers of Yeomanry, Artillery and other units which gave unstinted service. The Sherwood Foresters were in almost every fight of the war, and while there were hundreds of instances of marvellous bravery, there were none of which they need be ashamed. The name of the Sherwood Foresters became synonymous with bravery and fighting efficiency. He would suggest that every town and village in the two counties should follow the example of their capitals and erect tablets similar to those that were to be put up in Nottingham and Derby. In conclusion, the General appealed to them to see that neither want nor unemployment fell to the lot of these splendid fellows who saved the Empire in the hour of its need.

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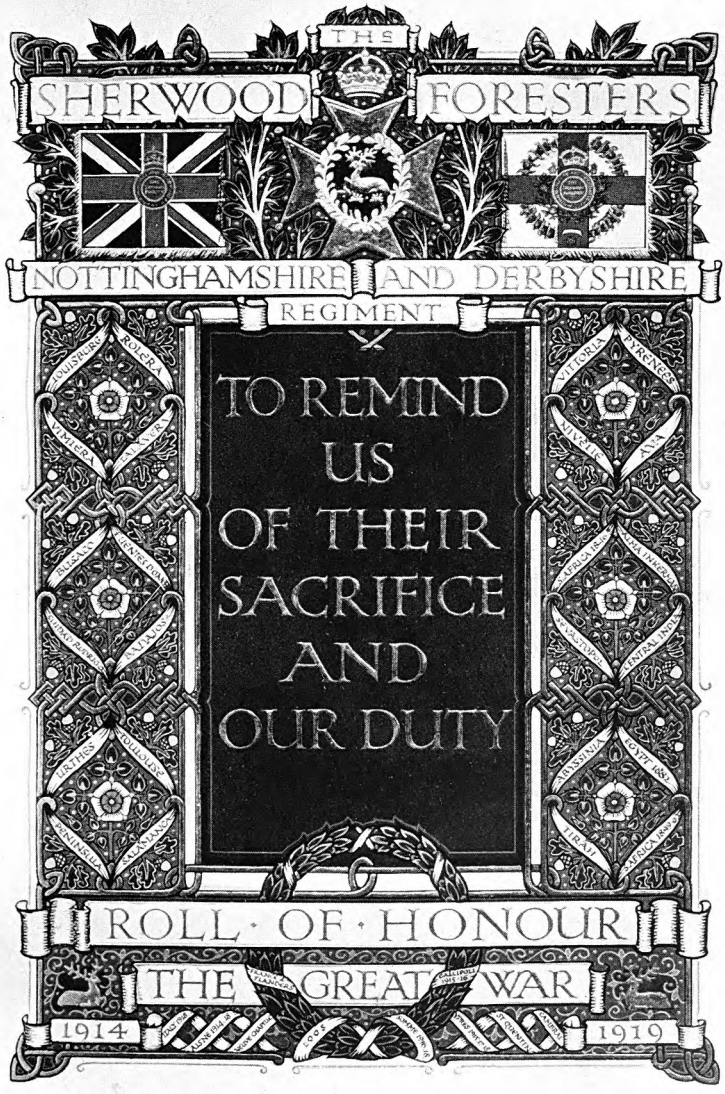

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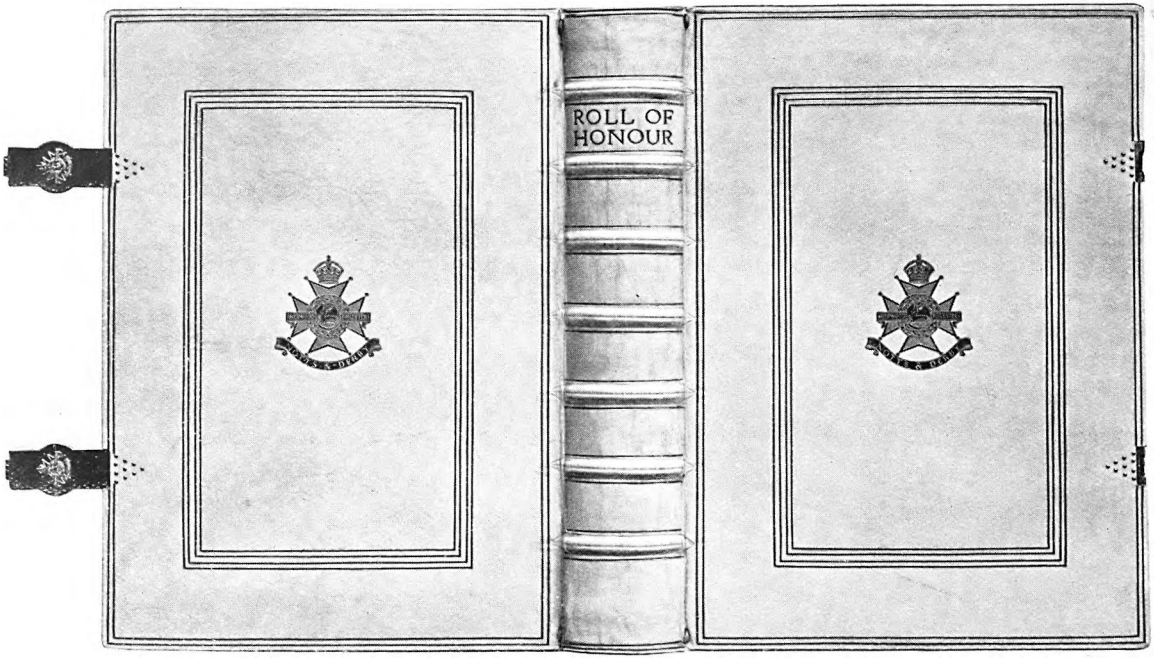

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

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THE LAST WAR

"The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., thanked General Smith-Dorrien on behalf of the two counties. He said that before war broke out they knew that when the occasion arose, the Regiment would be worthy of its great tradition, and now they knew how well its work was done. But in addition to monuments of stone or brass, he trusted they might erect another memorial—that of a happy, prosperous country, engaged in bringing civilisation back to a war-worn world, and that this tower would not be only a memorial of the ' Great ' War but of the last of all wars.

" The National Anthem brought the ceremony to a close, after which the public were admitted to the tower on payment of a small fee.

" Wreaths of remembrance were placed at the foot of the memorial by, amongst many others, the Sherwood Foresters Old Comrades' Association, and all units that fought in the Great War."

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III

THE EARLY LIFE OF THE 95TH REGIMENT

BEFORE proceeding to give any account of the life of the Regiment during the five years that it was quartered in the Ionian Islands, some further information may be afforded in regard to the assumption by the 95th of the Territorial title of "Derbyshire." Since the appearance of the last "Annual" further search has been made both at the War Office and among the papers preserved at the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane, with the result that the letter of which the following is a copy has been brought to light :—

"W.O. 3/410. "HORSE GUARDS,

26th Nov., 1825.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo and to acquaint you by direction of the Commander-in-Chief that His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 95th Regt. being styled the 95th or Derbyshire Regt. of Foot.

I have the honour, etc., etc.,

(Sgd.) H. TORRENS, A.G.

"Lt.-Col. Wylly, or
"Officer Commanding 95th Regt.,
"Malta."

Colonel Wylly's letter of the 28th October, to which this is a reply, cannot be found, but it seems fair to assume that the question of a Territorial title for the Regiment was raised by its then commanding officer, though why he should have suggested that of "Derbyshire" is not clear, as Colonel Wylly had no family or other association of any kind with that county.

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There is very little of real interest to be gleaned about the Regiment during its service in the Ionian Islands. The printed literature on the subject is chiefly concerned with the civil administration of the islands, enlivened by occasional squabbles between the various High Commissioners and their officials; but of military, and still less of regimental affairs, there is nothing to be discovered in the War Office or even in the documents preserved at the Public Record Office; consequently what is here set down is little more than the tale of moves of headquarters and detachments from one island to another.

Major W. T. Cockburn appears to have remained in command of the 95th Regiment from the date of its arrival in Corfu until the latter part of January, 1831, when presumably he went home on leave, and Capt. D. Maclean reigned in his stead. Cockburn seems to have been well thought of, or perhaps he was considered an improvement upon Lt.-Col. Anwyl, of whom the general officer commanding at Malta reported in May, 1829, that "his health appears to be in a precarious state, and from nervous debility he is frequently unable to put the Regiment through the movements in a proper manner," while of Major Cockburn the General wrote: "I feel it my duty to express my full appreciation of the zeal, conduct, and abilities of Major Cockburn, and humbly to express my opinion that there are few young men in the service more equal to the command of a Regiment." Anwyl exchanged to half-pay in June, 1830, with Lt.-Col. Brotherton.

Major Cockburn resumed command again on the 1st August, 1831, at Corfu, but at the beginning of 1832 the headquarters of the Regiment appears to have been moved to Vido, a detachment under Capt. Maclean, with Ensigns Wood and Austin, remaining in Corfu. On the 1st March Lt.-Col. James Campbell arrived to take over command, having exchanged from half-pay the September previous with Lt.-Col. Brotherton who does not appear ever to have joined the Regiment.

The 95th had not yet been ten years in existence, and had had no fewer than five lieut.-colonels during that time, but Col. "Jimmy" Campbell remained in command for the long space of twenty-one years, until promoted Major-Gen. in November, 1851, when he had nearly completed fifty years'

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service. He was appointed 2nd Lieut. in the Argyllshire Volunteer Infantry in July, 1801, joined the 91st in November, 1803, exchanged as a Captain to the 79th in July, 1812, and exchanged to half-pay as a Lt.-Col. in 1824. As a Major-Gen. he commanded the forces in Australia in 1852. He had seen much service—during the rebellion in Ireland he was present at Ballinamuck, Granard, and Wilson's Hospital, where he was wounded in the hand; he served in the expedition to Hanover in 1805–6, resigning a staff appointment for that purpose, and remained with the expeditionary force until the French were expelled from the country. He served also in the early part of the Peninsular War and had the medal and clasps for Roleia and Vimiera; he was employed in the Walcheren expedition of 1809, and during part of the 1815 campaign, being present at the surrender of Cambrai and Paris. He was appointed a Knight of Hanover in 1836. He died in London on the 18th November, 1853, aged sixty-seven, and is buried in Brompton Cemetery.

In May, 1832, the headquarters of the 95th returned to Corfu, and on the 26th December of this year the following appeared in Garrison Orders :—

"The Major-Gen. Commanding having concluded his half-yearly inspection of the troops at Corfu (the Companies of the Royal Artillery, the Companies of the Royal Sappers and Miners, and the 10th, 51st, 88th, and 95th Regiments, and 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade) has a gratifying duty to perform in recording his approbation of the general good order which pervades those corps and their improvement in exercise and manœuvre.

"The Major-Gen. has also every reason to feel satisfied with the discipline which has been maintained in these garrisons and with the exertions of officers of all ranks, to contribute to the good of the Service and to the honourable character of the Profession."

In the year 1835 a serious revolution broke out in the island of Cephalonia and neighbouring islands, and the headquarters of the 95th moved to Cephalonia under Col. Campbell, leaving detachments at the following stations: at Corfu under Major Maclean, at Ithaca under Capt. James Fraser and Lieut.

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Wardle, at Paxo under Lieut. Dickson, at Luxuri under Lieuts. Newhouse and Austin, at Fort George under Ensign Hamilton, and, later, Lieut. Whitting, and at Cerigo under Capt. Collis, with lesser detachments at Guiscardia, St. Euphemia, St. Geronimo, and Zante. For its services during these troubles the Regiment received great praise, the High Commissioner, Lord Nugent, writing : " It gives me great pleasure to testify to the exemplary steadiness, patience, and humanity, as well as gallantry, displayed by them during a very arduous and trying service."

In June, 1834, headquarters and three companies returned from Cephalonia to Corfu, and it was during this voyage that Lieut. and Adjt. Collard and Pte. Thomas Scollin jumped overboard, the vessel on which they were travelling being then under weigh, and saved the life of a woman who had fallen overboard and who, but for their exertions and timely help would certainly have been drowned. The sequel appears in a resolution passed by the Senate of the Ionian Islands, of which the following is a translation from the original Italian :—

" THE UNITED STATES OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS
" CORFU, 10*th July*, 1834.

Resolution of the Senate.

" In view of the decision of His Excellency the High Commissioner of the Sovereign Protectorate, dated 1st July, in which he expressed his magnanimous desire and wish to the Senate that two Medals of Honour be conferred upon Lieut. Collard, Adjt. of the 95th Regiment, and upon Grenadier Thos. Scollin of the same Regiment, for having both of them, with great courage, saved from the sea a woman who had fallen overboard from a vessel under sail, and thus showing one of those great examples which, by a Resolution passed on the 3rd February last, are declared worthy of such a distinction :—

" It is resolved,

" *Article I.* Two Medals of Honour shall be conferred, the one upon Lieut. Collard, Adjt. of the 95th Regiment, and the other upon Grenadier Thos. Scollin of the same regiment.

" *Article II.* Major-Gen. Sir Alexander Woodford, to whom

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this Resolution is to be communicated, shall be asked to permit those individuals, as they are under his immediate command, to receive these distinctions of Honour and to wear them in public.

"*Article III.* These Resolutions shall be printed and published for general information.

(Sd.) "BULGARI.
"ED. S. BAYNES.
General Secretary to the Senate.
"Approved, NUGENT.
F. FRAISER.
Sec. to the Lord High Commissioner."

(Bulgari was then President of the Senate; Lord Nugent, then Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, was the donor of the old Snuff Box with the fine Intaglio in the 2nd Battalion Officers' Mess; while Major-Gen. Sir Alexander Woodford gave the 95th Regiment its second set of Colours. Pte. Scollin was a married man, belonged to the Grenadier Company, and joined the 95th in 1825.)

Below are drawings of the medal—obverse and reverse.

The words over the wreath on the obverse of the medal are, translated, "Senate in Council," while within the wreath is the sentence, "Reward for Merit." On the obverse is the inscription, "He risked his life to save another's."

Somewhere about this period an officer joined the Regiment who was destined to command it in one of its great battles, Ensign Champion coming out in March, 1833, with a small draft consisting of 1 officer—Ensign Hamilton—1 sergeant, 5 rank and file, and 4 boys from the "Reserve Companies."

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Promotion in those days was very slow as may be seen by the following memorial addressed by Capt. James Fraser of the Regiment to the Right Hon. Sir James Kempt, G.C.B., Master-General of the Ordnance :—

" Humbly sheweth.

" That the particulars of your Memorialist having been appointed in General Orders to the Staff of the Division commanded by you at Waterloo and not being allowed to join it until the Army arrived at Paris, have been mentioned at the Horse Guards, and to the want of your Excellency's representation regarding this, Memorialist attributes his being still overlooked for promotion.

" The circumstances alluded to being brought to your notice even at so remote a period Memorialist trusts you will be pleased favourably to make mention of him at the proper quarter, and thus rescue an officer of twenty-seven years' zealous services from the neglect he so little expected at the time he had the honour to be under your immediate command. He being long since the only Captain who had been on that staff and who has (not) been promoted.

" All of which is humbly submitted.

" JAMES FRASER,
Captain 95th Regiment."

This memorial is endorsed :—

" Inform Capt. Fraser that I shall be happy to be instrumental to the promotion of his professional claims and will take an opportunity of mentioning him to Lord Hill.

(Sd.) " J. K."

There are so many James Frasers in the Army List at this period that it is impossible to trace with certainty the past services of this one, but he was eventually given a brevet majority in January, 1837.

About June—or perhaps rather earlier in—1834 Headquarters and three companies returned from Cephalonia to Corfu, leaving detachments at Cerigo and Cephalonia, but these detachments rejoined in August and September, and then on the 1st November the 95th Regiment was placed

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under orders to return home; but just previous to this what would now no doubt be described as " a regrettable incident," but what was in those early days of the last century still an affair of almost everyday occurrence, took place, as may be seen from the following extract from the *Devonport Telegraph*:—

" We regret to find by letters from the Mediterranean that a duel, attended with fatal consequences, took place last month by moonlight on the ramparts of Cephalonia, between Lieut. Whitting of the 95th Regiment and Mr. Scobell, late of the same regiment, son of a highly respectable gentleman of Stonehouse, who was on a tour in that quarter. Mr. Scobell was wounded in his spine and died soon after. Lieut. Whitting, and also the seconds, Lieut. and Adjt. Collard and Ensign McDonald, are under close arrest."

The date of this unhappy affair is not mentioned, but from the fact that Whitting, Collard and McDonald appear in the " Monthly Returns " as " in arrest from 1st November, 1834," the duel was presumably fought in the last days of October of that year.

The upshot of this duel was that Lieut. Collard was removed from the Army, no doubt on the grounds that he was considerably the senior of the three, while Lieut. Whitting and Ensign McDonald were transferred to the 28th and 34th Regiments respectively, each as the junior of his rank.

The first period of foreign service of the 95th Regiment now came to an end, and by the 17th January, 1835, the Regiment had returned home and was occupying quarters at Cork.

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IV

1ST BATTALION NOTES

THE past year has been a very crowded one for this Battalion, and also one of many changes. In January our Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. W. N. S. Alexander, D.S.O., fell sick after only being with us for five months, and never rejoined, being invalided out of the Service in May. We are very pleased to be able to report that his health has since very considerably improved and we hope that he will enjoy many years of well-earned rest. Our present Commanding Officer immediately took over temporarily the reins of office and was promoted to the command of the Battalion on the 16th May.

Between 24th November, 1922, and 9th March, 1923, drafts amounting to 404 Other Ranks left to join the 2nd Battalion abroad. During the year 95 Other Ranks, a very appropriate number, joined from the 2nd Battalion and the Depot sent us 452 Recruits. From these figures the reader can quite well imagine some of our difficulties, both at Training and in the field of Sport, and considering all things we have no reason to be ashamed of our modest achievements. There is no doubt we have now some very fine material in the Battalion and the coming year should be a most successful one.

On 6th April the usual " Badajos Day " Celebrations were held. In the morning the Regimental Colour was Trooped—2nd-Lieut. P. N. White carrying the Colour and Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C., and Lieut. S. Gregory being the Officers of the Escort, as in last year's " Troop." At the conclusion of the parade Major-Gen. B. Burnett-Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O., took the salute and afterwards presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to several Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers. Although there was a good attendance of old officers and other ranks of the Regiment at this Ceremony we would very much like to see more there, and we take this opportunity of asking all Old Comrades to keep the 6th April

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in their minds and come and spend " Badajos Day " with us next year if they possibly can. In the evening the Sergeants' Mess gave their annual Badajos Ball in the Garrison Gymnasium. It was a tremendous success, and was perfectly organised, as are all entertainments given by that Mess.

During April we were inspected by Major-Gen. Sir Peter Strickland, who had recently taken over command of the 2nd Division from Major-Gen. Sir R. H. K. Butler, an officer who had endeared himself to all ranks during the period we had the privilege of being under his command and to whom we wish the very best of good luck. During April, also, we sent a congratulatory telegram to H.M. the King of Denmark on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his wedding to which he was graciously pleased to reply. All ranks who were with the Battalion in Schleswig-Holstein will remember the hospitality extended to us by His Majesty and his subjects.

It is interesting to record that 2nd Lieut. S. O. Boyd this year won the Army Boxing Championship (feather-weight), the first time that an officer of the Regiment had won one of these Championship Events.

May was certainly a month of " Ceremonial." First we were inspected by Lt.-Gen. Sir Philip Chetwode, on taking over command of the Aldershot Command, and later we took part in the Royal Review held on Laffans Plain during the annual visit of Their Majesties to Aldershot. On both occasions the Battalion lived up to its reputation for good drill.

The Band and Drums also played before Their Majesties at a " Massed Retreat " organised by the 2nd Division, and the Band had the further honour of playing a selection of music at the Royal Pavilion during luncheon.

Battalions in the Aldershot Command do not usually have to spend a very long period under canvas during the Training Season. This year, however, we actually spent six weeks in Camp—a very good experience for the youngsters of which the Battalion is mostly composed.

In July we were sent to Bisley to provide markers for the National Rifle Association Meeting and to administer the Markers' Camp, Fortunately the weather was perfect, and although the work was strenuous everyone enjoyed it. It is very gratifying that our efforts were so appreciated by the

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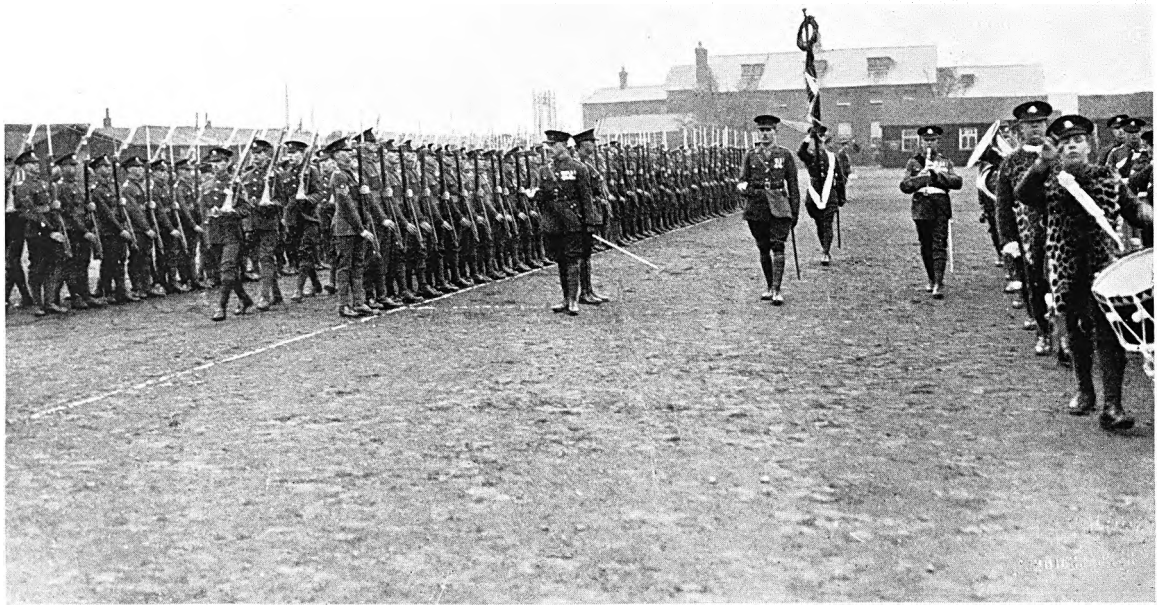

1st BATTALION

Trooping the Colour, Badajos Day, Blackdown, 1928

Facing p. 13

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BADAJOS DAY, 1923

OFFICERS PAST AND PRESENT

Facing f. 19

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Council of the N.R.A., who threaten to ask for us again next year.

To conclude Battalion Training, a week was spent in Camp at Lightwater. Again the weather was kind to us, but during our three weeks' Brigade Training on the South Downs rain was constant and conditions were anything but pleasant; however, much useful experience was gained by everyone.

It is not necessary to write here a long account of the opening of the Regimental War Memorial at Crich. Suffice it to say that the Battalion was well represented and the Band performed at the ceremony. Six selected Drummers were also sent to sound the " Last Post " and " Rêveillé."

In conclusion, the opening of the new Sergeants' Mess on 27th October must be mentioned. The ceremony was performed by the Commanding Officer, and the Sergeants are to be congratulated on having such a fine and well-equipped Mess, and also for providing such an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Changes, Promotions, etc.

Officers

Lt.-Col. W. N. S. Alexander, D.S.O., to retired pay, owing to ill health, 16.5.1923, and Major J. H. Wybergh promoted Lt.-Col.-in-Command. Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., joined the Battalion from Command of the Regimental Depot, 27.1.1923, being succeeded by Bt.-Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O., Capt. J. A. M. Lang, O.B.E., joined the Battalion from duty with the R.A.F. 1.8.1923. Capt. J. E. H. Maxwell, M.C., joined from the W.A.F.F. 2.12.1922. Capt. R. B. Tower, M.C., vacated the appointment of Adjutant 1.4.1923, being succeeded by Capt. H. B. D. Willcox, D.S.O., M.C., from Brigade-Major, Basrah District, Iraq. Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C., to W.A.F.F. 27.6.1923. Capt. B. G. Allen promoted Captain 1.1.1923. Capt. and Q.M. J. McGevor, M.B.E., retired and was succeeded by Capt. and Q.M. C. F. Dryden, from the Connaught Rangers, 13.11.1922. Lieut. C. A. Gamble transferred from the Royal Dublin Fusiliers 27.2.1923. Lieut. F. W. Woodward, O.B.E., posted to the Battalion from the Staff in Egypt 2.12.1922. Lieut. A. Andrews, M.C., seconded to the W.A.F.F. 21.3.1923. Lieut. R. F. Bernal to half-pay list

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16.11.1922, and restored 29.6.1923. Lieuts. A. C. C. Johnson and E. H. Collins seconded to W.A.F.F. 7.2.1923. 2nd Lieut. P. N. White to Regimental Depot 26.7.1923. 2nd Lieut. E.G.B. Proctor from R.M.C., Sandhurst, 14.9.1923. 2nd Lieuts. E. M. Bastyan, N. H. Thompson, R. M. Ingall, R. E. Tufnell, and C. Cockburn, from R.M.C., Sandhurst, on first appointment, 1.10.1923. Lieut. and Q.M. C. A. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M., promoted to Q.M. and to 2nd Battalion 22.3.1923.

OTHER RANKS

Promotions: To C.S.M., C. Watson. *To Clr.-Sergt.* (O.R.S.), J. F. Hallam. *To Sergts.*, S. Billington and H. Jenks. *To Corpls.*, O'Connor, Bowling, Staples, Lumley, Berrington, Manning, Rhodes, Wagstaff, Parkes, Everett, Bristow, Doyle, Slater, Reeve, Milward and Hopkins. *Changes: From Regtl. Depot*, C.S.M. Gibson, C.Q.M.S.'s Shelton, Fox and Pain, Sergts. Fielding and Mortimer, Lce.-Sergts. Nicklin, Kilminster and Slater, and Corpls. Wincup, Naden, Parkes and Everett. *To Regtl. Depot*, C.Q.M.S. Barber, Sergts. Forrester and Rose, Lce.-Sergt. Piper, Corpls. Shaw, Mansfield, Neep, Allcock, Moss, Ecob and Reeve. *To T.F.*, C.S.M. Laws, Sergts. Sturgess, Smith and King. *From T.F.*, C.S.M. Stradling, Sergt. Beanland. *To 2nd Battn.*, C.S.M.'s McDermott, Underwood and Unwin, C.Q.M.S.'s Hunt, George, Mortimer and Armstrong, Sergt. Howell, Corpls. Haigh, O'Connor and Nicholls. *From 2nd Battn.*, C.S.M.'s Laws and Gibson, Sergt. Harber.

CERTIFICATES

S.A.S., Hythe: Capts. J. E. H. Maxwell, M.C., and H. L. B. Mills, Lieuts. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., and H. F. Coleman, Sergts. Townsend (Distinguished), Fielding, Beanland and Nicklin (Distinguished), Sergt. Cunningham.

M.G.S., Netheravon: Lieut. C. H. A. Sturge, Sergt. Conduit, Lce.-Sergt. Sinton, Corpls. Berrington, Staples and Old.

Education: Sergt. Conduit, Lce.-Sergt. Tippett, Corpls. Wagstaff, Hopkins, Irwin and Lce.-Corpl. Hales.

Farriers: Ptes. Fearnley, Garton and Downing.

Chiropody: Pte. Hall.

Cooks: Ptes. Malpass, Millington, McCracken and Sparks.

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Hygiene: 2nd Lieut. S. O. Boyd, Corpl. Mawer, Ptes. Buckley and Wood.

Stretcher Bearing: Sergt. Harrison, Lce.-Sergt. Tippett, Bdsn. Rowland and Salisbury.

Physical Training: Corpls. Jeffrey and Bradbury, Lce.-Cpls. Storrs and Jackson.

DEATH

No. 4963862, Boy K. L. Swinson, died in the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, London, on 19.10.23, as the result of an accident sustained at Bisley.

LIST OF OFFICERS SERVING WITH THE BATTALION
1ST OCTOBER, 1923

Lt.-Col. J. H. Wybergh. Commanding.
Bt.-Lt.-Col. K. C. Weldon, D.S.O. Second-in-command.
Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O.
Capt. C. S. Crofton.
,, J. A. M. Lang, O.B.E.
,, J. E. H. Maxwell, M.C.
,, R. B. Tower, M.C.
,, H. B. D. Willcox, D.S.O., M.C. Adjutant.
,, H. L. B. Mills.
Bt.-Major C. E. Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C. 2nd Battalion.
Capt. B. G. Allen.
,, and Q.M. C. F. Dryden. Quartermaster.
Lieut. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C.
,, C. A. Gamble.
,, F. W. Woodward, O.B.E.
,, C. H. A. Sturge.
,, S. Gregory.
,, H. F. Coleman.
,, R. F. Bernal. 2nd Battalion.
2nd Lieut. C. E. Bleck. 2nd Battalion.
,, A. de B. Morris.
,, S. O. Boyd.
,, E. G. B. Proctor. 2nd Battalion.
,, E. M. Bastyan.
,, N. H. Thompson. 2nd Battalion.
,, R. M. Ingall. 2nd Battalion.
,, R. E. Tufnell.
,, C. Cockburn.

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Transport Notes

It is general knowledge now that the Transport Section of a Home Battalion is very small, but notwithstanding our five pairs of mules and eight chargers we get through a large amount of work and, by entering various competitions, invariably contrive to make ourselves happy and keep the animals fit.

Since the last appearance of the "Annual "the transport have assisted in the construction of several new recreation grounds in the station. Last winter was a very trying time indeed, for animals and drivers were out every day in all weathers, and towards the spring the mules were certainly not looking their best; but in spite of all, we received good reports from the Officer in Charge of Transport, Aldershot Command, on his quarterly inspections.

With the opening of the training season the mules picked up wonderfully, being able to get a good deal of grazing during the long halts, so that by the 16th June, the day fixed for the Blackdown Garrison Horse Show, they were looking well. In this show we got first place against the Queen's Royal Regiment, and our old opponents, the 24th Regiment—in fact the points gained showed a very creditable performance and great credit is due to the Transport Personnel, the Pioneer Sergeant and Sergeant Master Cook. Captain Willcox's horse " Jack," ridden by Capt. Jacques, R.A.M.C., also got 3rd place in the Polo Pony Competition.

Having got our tails well up in the Garrison Show, we decided to go in for the Aldershot Command Horse Show, on the 28th July, but on the march down to Aldershot the rain came down in torrents, with the result that everyone was drenched to the skin. However, we entered the arena, with a few other competitors who had shared a like fate marching from Bordon, for the pleasure of seeing someone else who had not so far to come, take the prize.

On the 30th July the transport was augmented by twenty-six animals from the 8th Brigade R.F.A., and we spent a very pleasant week in Camp at Lightwater, and several drivers received their baptism of camp life.

We were now drawing near to that part of the training to

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which all good soldiers look forward—manœuvres—and on the 12th August the transport was again augmented by twenty-six animals from the 28th Brigade R.F.A., and marched to Lavington Park, stopping one night at Bramshott.

I do not intend to tell of all the trials and troubles of the transport on manœuvres here, for they are many and varied. Some parts were thoroughly enjoyed, especially when the weather was dry, but when the wet weather came the field in which the Transport Lines were situated brought back to one's mind the unspeakable mud of the Somme and Passchendael, so that towards the end everybody was glad when the order for the return march came.

As a Transport Section our efforts during the past year to be ready for all emergencies have been crowned with a large measure of success, mostly due to the efforts and hard work of the drivers and grooms in looking after their animals under all conditions; and so we hope to continue. SELUM.

ATHLETICS

INTER-PLATOON CROSS-COUNTRY RACE

A new competition has been instituted in the Battalion, the Inter-Platoon Cross-Country Race, for which there is a Miniature Challenge Shield. Owing to the small numbers in many platoons, it was decided that, for this year, teams would consist of only six competitors, who would all count points towards the Shield provided they passed the posts within a specified time. The race was held on April 25th, and resulted with a rather easy win for the Machine Gun Platoon with 678 points, No. 2 Platoon of A Company being second with 577 points, and No. 1 Group Headquarter Wing (Drums and Signallers) third with 565 points. Sixty-six competitors, representing eleven platoons, started, and the course, an easy one, was about three and a half miles.

The individual placings were as follows:—

1st, A.-Corpl. Staples, M.G. Platoon, time 19 mins. 45 secs.; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Storrs, No. 10 Platoon; 3rd, Lieut. Sturge, M.G. Platoon; 4th, Pte. Fairholme, No. 8 Platoon; 5th, Pte. Barry, No. 14 Platoon; 6th, Pte. Atherton, No. 1 Platoon; 7th, Pte. Hickling, No. 6 Platoon; 8th, Pte. Miles,

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M.G. Platoon; 9th, Pte. Millington, M.G. Platoon; 10th, Dmr. Thompson, Drums, No. 1 Group; 11th, Boy Clarke, Band, No. 4 Group; 12th, Pte. Davis, Sigs., No. 1 Group; 13th, Pte. Revill, M.G. Platoon; 14th, Lce.-Corpl. Linthwaite, M.G. Platoon; 15th, Pte. Barnett, No. 2 Platoon.

INTER-COMPANY TUG-OF-WAR

During the periods that the Battalion was in camp at Lightwater and at Lavington Park there was keen competition for the Inter-Company Tug-of-war Shield, and some really good pulls were seen. The competition was decided on the "League System," and reached a dead-heat with letters C and D Companies, and Left Flank Headquarter Wing; all level with the loss of one pull each. However, in the final pulls, D Company, under the tuition of Sergt. Cumming, obtained a well-deserved victory.

Team (*Catchweights*): Lce.-Corpl. Shepherd, Lce.-Corpl. Taylor, Lce.-Corpl. Meaden, Pte. Erskine, Pte. White, Pte. Ross, Pte. Barry, Pte. Johnson, Pte. Gunsen and Pte. Salter.

INTER-COMPANY FULL MARCHING ORDER RACE

The Inter-Company Full Marching Order Race, held on September 4th, again proved itself a hard test of endurance and physical fitness, and the winning team must be congratulated on completing the course, a distance of 3½ miles, in 36 mins. 5 secs., an average of about 6 miles an hour.

Pte. Barry, D Company, Sergt. Townsend, Lce.-Corpl. Andrews, and Pte. Pearson, of B Company, were the first four home, but the next seven places were all taken by the complete team of the Left Flank, Headquarter Wing, who were being hotly pursued by C Company's Team under Lce.-Sergt. Wade.

Winning team: Corpl. Staples, Act.-Corpl. Old, Lce.-Corpl. Linthwaite, Lce.-Corpl. Miles, Pte. Revill, Pte. Newton, Pte. Millington.

INTER-COMPANY CROSS-COUNTRY RACE

On September 10th a field of 120 competitors turned out for this event in teams of 20 per Company and Flanks, Head-

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quarter Wing. This year, the course was laid mainly over tracks and roads, as it was decided that the course for 1922 would prove too stiff in view of the short training that had been possible. The race resulted in a rather unexpected win for letter B Company, who finished the 5 miles in 27 mins. 10 secs., the favourites, Corpls. Storrs and Staples, finishing 2nd and 3rd.

The first six of B Company's team were awarded medals: Lce.-Corpl. Andrews 1st, Pte. Sims 7th, 2nd Lieut. Boyd 8th, Pte. Reynolds 16th, Lce.-Corpl. Hickling 21st, Lieut. Gamble 24th.

REGIMENTAL ATHLETIC MEETING

Possibly some of our friends in the 2nd Battalion have forgotten what an English summer is like, but we sampled it at its worst on September 14th and 15th. Unfortunately, we selected these dates to hold our Annual Regimental Athletic Meeting, and consequently the meeting was held in a downpour of rain. This, however, in no way damped the ardour of the competitors, but the social aspect was not as cheery as had been anticipated.

The Garrison Cricket Ground was again utilized and with the exception of minor mishaps, notably in the high jump and 120-yards hurdles, there was a general improvement in the standard over last year, and we feel indebted to the Depot for some promising material. With the object of encouraging the lesser lights, the first six places in each championship event scored points towards the "Wolley-Dod" Shield.

By the kind permission of Lt.-Col. A. J. Reddie, C.M.G., D.S.O., and Officers, the Band of the 24th Regiment, South Wales Borderers, who are shortly leaving the station for Devonport, played an excellent selection of music on the Saturday afternoon.

We were glad to see Gen. Roy, Major Rhodes and Capt. Needham, who all competed in the Officers' Race. Lt.-Gen. the Right Hon. Sir Frederick Shaw, K.C.B., had kindly consented to present the prizes, but was unfortunately prevented from so doing, so Mrs. Wybergh very ably filled the post.

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The following is a list of the prize-winners :—

100 *Yards :* 1st, Bdsmn. Mitchell, " R," time 11 secs. ; 2nd, Corpl. Everett, " B " ; 3rd, Lce.-Sergt. Sinton, " L."

¼ *Mile :* 1st, Lieut. R. F. Bernal, " D," time 58 secs. ; 2nd, Lce.-Sergt. Sinton, " L " ; 3rd, Pte. Parker, " L."

½ *Mile :* 1st, Lieut. R. F. Bernal, " D," time 2 mins. 22 secs. ; 2nd, Corpl. Staples, " L " ; 3rd, Lieut. C. H. A. Sturge, " L."

1 *Mile* (Open) : 1st, Pte. Davis, 24th Regt., time 5 mins. 5 secs. ; 2nd, Pte. Horne, 24th Regt. ; 3rd, Corpl. Staples, " L."

3 *Miles :* 1st, Pte. Foster, " A," time 17 mins. 24 secs. ; 2nd, Corpl. Storrs, " C " ; 3rd, Pte. Davis, " R."

120 *Yards Hurdles :* 1st, Pte. Sheldon, " L," time 20⅘ secs. ; 2nd, Lce.-Sergt. Hiam, " R " ; 3rd, 2nd Lieut. Bleck, " C."

High Jump : 1st, Bdsmn. Mitchell, " R," height 4 ft. 10 in. ; 2nd, Lce.-Sergt. Hiam, " R."

Long Jump : 1st, Pte. O'Donnell, " C," distance 17 ft. 5 in. ; 2nd, Corpl. Everett, " B " ; 3rd Lce.-Sergt. Hiam, " R."

Throwing the Cricket Ball : 1st, Sergt. Townsend, " B," distance 102 yds. 1 ft. 3 in. ; 2nd, Pte. Costley, " D " ; 3rd, Pte. Kirk, " B."

Putting the Weight (16 lbs.) : 1st, Sgt. Townsend, " B," distance 30 ft. 9 in. ; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Hickling, " B " ; 3rd, Bdsmn. Mitchell, " R."

Sack Race : 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Hardwidge ; 2nd, Pte. Pearson ; 3rd, Pte. Stevenson.

Mop Fighting : Bandsman Mitchell and Bandsman Latham.

Tilting the Bucket : Corpl. Millward and Dmr. Jones.

Inter-Company Boat Race : " R " Flank, H.Q. Wing, Corpl. Millward, Lce.-Corpl. Wakefield, Dmr. Jones, Dmr. Owen, Pte. McVeight.

Ladies' Race : 1st, Mrs. Fielding ; 2nd, Mrs. Harrison ; 3rd, Mrs. Slater.

Children's Races (Girls) : 1st, Joan Dilkes ; 2nd, Audrey Cumming ; 3rd Ena Howitt. (Boys) : 1st, Kenneth Howitt ; 2nd, James Farley ; 3rd, Sidney Mortimer.

Enlisted Boys' Race : 1st, Boy Turner ; 2nd, Boy Barber.

Veterans' Handicap : 1st, C.S.M. Watson ; 2nd, Sergt. Marston ; 3rd, Sergt. Mortimer.

Corporals' Race : 1st, Corpl. Everett ; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Hickling ; 3rd, Corpl. Old.

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Sergeants' Handicap: 1st, Sergt. Sinton; 2nd, Sergt. Hiam; 3rd, Sergt. Slater.

Officers' Handicap: 1st, Lt.-Col. J. H. Wybergh; 2nd, Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O.

"Victor Ludorum," 1923. Challenge Cup, presented by the Commanding Officer: Lce.-Sergt. Hiam—Long Jump, 3rd; Throwing the Cricket Ball, 4th; Putting the Weight, 6th; High Jump, 2nd; 120 Yards Hurdles, 2nd; ¼ Mile, 4th.

Winners of the Inter-Company Relay Race, Left Flank, H.Q. Wing. Team: Sergt. Blake, 220; Sergt. Sinton, 440; Corpl. Staples, 880; Lieut. Sturge, 220; total 1 mile, time 4 mins. 23⅗ secs.

Winners of the "Wolley-Dod" Challenge Shield: Right Flank, Headquarter Wing.

Hockey Season, 1922–23

We wound up a very successful season by winning the Group Competition. After a bye in the first round, we beat the 9th Brigade Royal Field Artillery in the final by 2 goals to 1, Capt. Allen and 2nd Lieut. Morris scoring. Sergt. Marston showed up well in goal, and was responsible for many fine saves. In the first round of the Command Tournament we were most unfortunate in being beaten by the 13th/18th Hussars by 3 goals to 2. Undoubtedly the better team, we were handicapped not only by the heavy ground, but also by the loss of Lieut. Johnson, who went abroad, and 2nd Lieut. White, through injury.

The Inter-Company Competition provided some exciting games. A Company beat B Company, and C Company beat D Company in the first rounds, and C Company beat A Company in the final. This was a well-contested game, and it looked as if anyone might win, till ten minutes before "time."

We hope this coming season to put a really good side in the field, with the assistance of six of last year's eleven and several experts from the Depot. We should still like to see more combination, and the short passing game, rather than the individual effort and hard kicking, but this, no doubt, will come with constant practice.

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Cricket, 1923

We have no reason to be dissatisfied with our cricket season. The team was certainly better than last year even though it did not quite materialise as we hoped. Without flattering ourselves we believe we were above the average. We got knocked out of the Command Inter-Unit Competition by one of the finalists, when we were well within sight of being in the final ourselves. That was our great disappointment, as at one time we looked like winning the match. We were beaten by two other regimental sides during the season. One we had previously beaten and with the other we were never able to play a return match.

Our fixture list was certainly stiffer than last year's, and it was unfortunate that so many matches had to be cancelled owing to training. We have great hopes for the future as later in the season we discovered quite a lot of young and promising talent. Our batting was our really weak point. Capt. Allen made runs in most matches but the remainder were uncertain. Sergt. Townsend struck a bad patch, and as so often happens at the same time did not have the best of luck. The fact that he made a very good thirty-odd in the one game he played for the Command encourages us to believe that he will repeat his last season's record and strengthen the side just where it is most needed. The Colonel started off with a brilliant century, we are sure he has never played a better innings for the Regiment, and followed this up by another very good innings, but never really got going again. As last year, his first slight mistake was always fatal. Luck never gave him a second chance. Lieut. Gamble was our " hitter " and 2nd Lieut. Morris our " stone-waller." We hope the latter won't be murdered one day by an exasperated bowler, as he is very useful indeed when he keeps to his rôle, and does not try to imitate the former. Latterly we discovered Private Kirk, of whom we have really great hopes as an all-round cricketer. He is going to be a really good left-hand bat.

At the end of the season the eleven only had three players in it who did not bowl. Sergt. Hiam on his day was very good indeed, and his average shows that he had very few off-days this season, probably owing to the fact that he bowled with

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more deliberation than last year. Lieut. Gamble had few wickets to suit him but was a reliable bowler whom the batsmen found needed careful watching. Capt. Allen was not as reliable as last year. Lieut. Coleman usually got wickets when they were most wanted. Ptes. Kirk and Dodd were both useful latterly. Both can keep a length and turn the ball, and should be a great help in the future.

The fielding of the team was anyhow satisfactory. We felt the need of practice in this—as in batting. But at Blackdown cricket grounds do not exactly encourage practice.

2nd Lieut Bleck was unfortunately sick nearly the whole season. We can only tell the 2nd Battalion, who will have him next year, that they will find his batting, and probably his lob bowling, very useful. We have now the nucleus for forming a very fair Second XI. It should anyhow not be weak in bowling. Next year, if grounds permit, we hope to put this on a definite footing.

Results of matches: Won 7, lost 4, drawn 3.

The scores in the drawn games were as follows: Foresters, 169 for 9 (declared); No. 2 Coy. R.M.C., 78 for 7; 28th Brigade R.F.A., 168 for 9 (declared); Foresters, 147 for 5. Foresters, 184; R.A.O.C., 77 for 8.

BATTING AVERAGES

	Innings.	Times not out.	Runs.	Most in innings.	Average.
Capt. Allen	15	1	561	124	37·4
Lt.-Col. Wybergh	11	2	256	103	23·3
Sergt. Townsend	13	–	204	62	15·7
Lieut. Gamble	12	1	155	37	12·9
Sergt. Jennings	5	1	62	18	12·4
2nd Lieut. Morris	12	2	138	25	11·5
Lieut. Coleman	11	2	114	33	10·4

BOWLING AVERAGES

	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Sergt. Hiam	354	45	7·7
Lt.-Col. Wybergh	74	8	9·2
Lieut. Gamble	459	41	11·2
Lieut. Coleman	131	11	11·9
Capt. Allen	394	29	13·7

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Boxing Notes

At the end of last year we were unable to enter a team for the Aldershot Command Inter-Unit Competition as we should have liked to have done owing to the fact that we had to send out to the 2nd Battalion large drafts which completely absorbed all our old boxers. Now that the 2nd Battalion is approaching full strength we are beginning to collect a new team for this season.

The Commanding Officer has kindly allowed the conversion of a barrack room into a boxing hut, which though small, for the numbers who wish to use it, is undoubtedly a great boon and has kept alive the " boxing spirit " in the Battalion.

On the 16th, 17th and 18th July, 1923, whilst at Bisley, we held a Competition open to all the markers who were with us in Camp. The entries were very numerous—more than one-half being from the Battalion. This was the first occasion that anything had been attempted at Bisley as regards boxing, and in spite of many difficulties the whole competition was a great success, due to the zeal and energy of all those who helped.

The Commanding Officer presented the prizes at the conclusion of the meeting. After some very good fighting, and many keen preliminary rounds, the results were :—

Light Heavy Weight : A.B. Dawson, R.N., beat A.C.2. Johnson, R.A.F.

Middle-Weight : Pte. Hainsworth, Foresters, beat Pte. Pearce, Foresters.

Welter-Weight : Lce.-Corpl. Hickling, Foresters, beat P.O. Green, R.N.

Light-Weight : Pte. Fuller, Beds and Herts, beat Pte. Wade, Welch Regt.

Feather-Weight : Pte. Chaney, R.A.M.C., beat Pte. Norris, Beds and Herts.

Bantam-Weight : Pte. Thomas, Welch Regt., beat Pte. Hulme, Foresters.

Lce.-Corpl. Hickling and Pte. Hainsworth fought well all through. Ptes. Atherton and Bavoillot had bad luck in meeting good opponents at the very beginning, but, nevertheless, put up a plucky show, as did also Pte. Norris of the Beds

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and Herts Regt. Pte. Pearce of the Battalion has the right spirit and should do well in the future.

On 20th April, 1923, 2nd Lieut. S. O. Boyd won the Army Individual Championship, Officers' Class, Feather-weights, at Aldershot, defeating Lieut. H. M. Dodson, 1st Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, in the final.

Football Notes

The Battalion entered teams for the Command Senior and Enlisted Boys' League and a team for the Junior Knock-Out Competition.

The season was fairly successful although it commenced rather badly, this was mainly due to the number of men required for drafts to the 2nd Battalion in India. The Battalion was very unlucky with casualties—almost every game someone was badly injured, and naturally the side was handicapped.

Once again we were unable to repeat the 2nd Battalion's achievement of winning the Army Cup.

We were drawn against the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, who eventually worked themselves into the final. The game was played at Blackdown. A keen struggle was witnessed, although it was scrappy football.

We were defeated by one goal to nothing. Prior to the game we suffered casualties, and the following were unable to play: Sergt. Jennings, Sergt. Howell, Pte. Stringfellow.

On returning from leave the side settled down, and from then to the end of the season we were a winning side, playing 8 matches, winning 6, drawing 2.

The end of the season found us fourth in the Command Senior League. The team was chosen from the following: Lieut. Hutchings, Lieut. Coleman, Sergt. Townsend, Sergt. Hiam, Sergt. Cunningham, Sergt. Jennings, Lce.-Corpl. Watson, Lce.-Corpl. Ransford, Corpl. Rhodes, Dmr. Pettinger, Pte. Birch, Pte. Ponting, Dmr. Stansbie, Pte. Stringfellow.

We played, including friendly matches, 20 games; won 12, lost 6, drawn 2. Goals: for 63, against 30, the chief scorers being: Lieut. Hutchings, 28; Sergt. Jennings, 8; Sergt. Cunningham, 7; Dmr. Pettinger, 6.

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Boys

The Boys' Eleven were not very successful, only winning 3 games out of 14.

They were playing elevens much bigger than themselves, our boys being very small. Another disadvantage is the number available to form a decent side.

Boys Owen and Latham have now entered their men's service, and if they show the promise they did when playing for the Boys' Eleven they will go a long way.

Junior Knock-out

We entered a team for the Command Junior Knock-out Competition, of which we were holders.

The team was not so strong as the previous year, the reason being the great number of players being called upon to assist the Regimental side above the stipulated number of times.

We were defeated after a good game in the final of our Division by the 1st A.A. Searchlight Battalion Royal Engineers, by 2 goals to 1.

Company Football

The Company Football Shield was played for on the League System, and provided some exciting games, the winners being Letter C Company (Capt. R. B. Tower, M.C.).

The Annual Officers' versus Sergeants' Match was a one-sided game, the Sergeants winning by thirteen goals.

WEAPON TRAINING

Owing to the introduction of the new Annual Range Courses, it is not possible to compare the average of the Battalion for 1923 with that of previous years, but the classification scores certainly reveal the fact that a better standard of rifle shooting has been attained this year than in any year since the war.

That standard, although an improvement, is still much lower than it should be; wretched weather conditions and

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meagre range allotment, which necessitates hurrying through a course, has undoubtedly contributed largely towards the present unfavourable position.

It must be remarked, however, that if the interest in Weapon Training (which at the time of writing these notes is unusually keen) be maintained throughout the winter, a vast improvement in shooting will be recorded at the end of 1924.

The Miniature Range which has been out of action for some considerable time, is at last in working order, and it is hoped that its use will further assist in maintaining that keen interest so essential in a good shooting Battalion.

On the 14th, 15th and 16th June a Rifle Meeting was held on No. 1 Range, Pirbright. In spite of the fact that only a few days were available for organising the meeting it was a great success, and the entries for the various competitions highly satisfactory.

In the Individual Match Lieut. C. H. A. Sturge (41) was top scorer out of 158 competitors, and so won the Dumbell Cup. In the same Competition a cup was presented to the best shot of each rank—Lieut. Sturge won the Officers' Cup, Sergt. Slater with 40 and Dmr. Ward with 37 won the Sergeants' and Privates' trophy respectively. Lce.-Corpls. Ransford and Hinchley tied with 36 for the best shot of the Corporals, and after an interesting shoot-off at 300 yards, slow and rapid, Lce-Corpl. Hinchley proved himself the better of the two.

Firing for the Inter-Rank Cup with teams of 8, the W.O.'s and Sergeants ran out easy winners, the scores being :—

W.O.'s and Sergeants	345	(C.S.M. I. M. McCormack 52).
Officers . .	271	(Lieut. S. Gregory . 56).
Privates . .	256	(Pte. Hibbett . . 42).
Corporals . .	225	(Corpl. Hopkins . . 41).

The Inter-Team Competition was perhaps the most interesting of the meeting. Teams of 20 from each Company and Flanks of H.Q. Wing fired a rapid practice at 300 yards and a slow practice at 600 yards, both very difficult distances. During this match the weather conditions were most unfavourable, but the shooting quite good. Letter C Company and Right Flank, H.Q. Wing, were very close throughout, but the

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latter succeeded in winning the Inter-Company Cup by a small margin. Results :—

Right Flank, H.Q. Wing . .	444
C Company	407
B Company	366
A Company	344
Left Flank, H.Q. Wing . .	343
D Company	330

Pool bull shooting at 200 yards concluded the meeting, and after nearly two hours' continuous firing the 2-in. bull was only hit 5 times : Lce.-Sergt. Sinton (twice), C.S.M. I. M. McCormack, Lce.-Sergt. Messom and Pte. Gray (once each).

Several teams were entered in the Army Rifle Association and Aldershot Command Rifle Meetings, but were not successful in winning any prizes. However, the experience which can truthfully be described as being bought at these meetings, shows us that in future we must have a great deal more practice previous to the events than ever we have had in the past. If that is possible there is no reason why some of the coveted trophies of these Associations should not find their way to our own silver cases.

It is interesting to note that during the N.R.A. Meeting at Bisley this year, 17 of the 32 prizes in the Markers' and Registers' Competitions were won by W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and men of the Battalion. The competitors included large detachments from the Navy, Air Force, Marines, Artillery, and four other infantry battalions.

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V

2ND BATTALION NOTES

20TH SEPTEMBER (ALMA DAY), 1922

ON account of the Battalion having mobilised, and everything being in a state of preparation for the move to Chanak on the following day, it was impossible to carry out the usual annual custom of Trooping the Colours and holding Sports, etc.

The following programme had been arranged, and it was regretted by all ranks that we were unable to carry it through.

The Battalion was to have embarked on the *Waterwitch* at 9.30 a.m., and proceed to the Florence Nightingale Cemetery, Scutari, to hold a memorial service in memory of the Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men who were killed in the Crimean War, placing wreaths on the Memorial and on individual graves.

Field-Marshal the Lord Plumer, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Malta, Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Allied Forces of Occupation in Turkey, and Major-Gen. T. O. Marden, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. British Corps of Occupation, expressed delight to be present at the service.

After the service the Battalion would have re-embarked and proceeded up the Bosphorus for a picnic in the grounds of the Commander-in-Chief at Therapia, at the kind invitation of Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles and Lady Harington.

Copy of a telegram received on arrival of the Battalion in India from Gen. Birdwood :—

" To : Commanding,
" The Sherwood Foresters,
" Rawalpindi.

" Very glad to be able to welcome the Sherwood Foresters to Northern Command, and I most heartily wish all ranks every prosperity, happiness and good health during the tour of the Battalion in India. (*From*) " GENERAL BIRDWOOD."

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The following reply was sent :—

"All Ranks the Sherwood Foresters thank General Sir William Birdwood for his kind message of welcome.

"SHERWOOD FORESTERS."

Since the compilation of last year's notes the Battalion has led a more or less nomadic existence. Travels into Thrace, and back to Anatolia, thence to Chanak, and finally the voyage to India all took place within the short period of three months.

On our departure from Chanak on 23rd October, 1922, 119 Other Ranks, under the command of Capt. M. J. Kenny, were left behind to await embarkation for the United Kingdom for posting to the Home Establishment and for discharge. Small wonder then that the Battalion disembarked at Karachi, a matter of only 470 Other Ranks strong.

To give the doings of the Battalion in detail would entail too much space in the "Annual," so it is proposed to relate in outline the part the Battalion took in the defence of the Chatalja Lines and at Chanak.

Numerous messages of appreciation of our efforts were received and are given in date order.

On July 20th the Battalion was placed under orders for India on relief about 6th October. Families who had been left in Egypt on our departure for Constantinople were to be picked up at Port Said en route.

By this time the Battalion had become more or less settled and in the midst of training and musketry at Bostandjik. About this time it was reported that the Greeks were concentrating large numbers of troops on the Thracian Frontier. On confirmation of this news it was generally supposed that training and musketry, etc., would practically cease at once; this proved to be the case, as, after permission for the Greeks to march on Constantinople had been refused, they assumed a menacing attitude and threatened to march on this city, with the result that an Allied Force, under the command of Gen. Charpy, G.O.C., French Force of Occupation, was ordered to occupy the Chatalja Lines so as to check the advance of the Greek Forces on Constantinople and to maintain a "belt of neutrality."

On the 30th July preparations for the move of Letters A,

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B, D Companies and H.Q. Wing were completed, Letter C Company, under the command of Capt. J. H. Slaughter, being detailed to remain behind as Camp Guard.

At 2 p.m. on 31st July the Battalion, after receiving two hours' notice, embarked at Bostandjik Pier in the *Waterwitch* for the European side of the Bosphorus, and disembarked at Ortakeui, Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., being in command. The Battalion then proceeded to the 1st Buffs, billeted at Yildiz Barracks, who entertained all ranks to tea. After tea the Battalion proceeded by march route to Mashlak Camp. The move from Bostandjik was carried out in a heavy storm of wind and rain, which made things very trying.

The following day, August 1st, was spent in completing with stores, wagons, animals, and other warlike accessories, and drying of clothing after the previous day's drenching. At 9 a.m. on August 2nd B Company, under the command of Capt. W. A. Ebsworth, proceeded by march route and train to Ak Bunar Fort and took up an outpost position, holding three posts. At 10.45 a.m. the remainder of the Battalion marched via Taxim, Rue De Pera, Galata for Sirkedji Station, Stamboul, arriving at 2.45 p.m. At 5 p.m. this party entrained for Hadem Keui, which was reached at 7.30 p.m. The march to Ak Bunar Fort on the Chatalja Lines was then resumed. By 8.15 p.m. Ak Bunar Fort was reached and the Battalion bivouacked for the night, the 1st Battalion of the Buffs being on our right and the French on our left.

On August 3rd and 4th frontages were allotted and reconnaissances made by Company, Platoon and Section Commanders. Gen. Charpy, Commanding the Allied Forces in Thrace, inspected the lines.

August 5th. The Battalion co-operated with the remainder of the British Mobile Column in the practising of the manning of the first defensive positions, the whole British Line being inspected by Major-Gen. T. O. Marden, G.O.C., B.C.O.

August 6th to 13th. During these days possible battle positions and developments were practised.

August 14th. Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Allied Forces of Occupation in Turkey, and Lord Lee of Fareham, First Lord of the Admiralty, visited the Battalion in camp.

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The following Special Order of the Day was afterwards published :—

" To Col.-Commdt. W. B. Emery, C.B., C.M.G.,
" Commanding British Mobile Column,
" Thrace.

" I have received a letter from the G.O.C.-in-Chief, A. F. O, saying how pleased he was with the visit to your force on the 14th inst. He was delighted with the excellent spirit prevailing throughout and with the high standard maintained as regards Camps and Transport. He added that Lord Lee of Fareham who accompanied him was very greatly impressed with what he saw. I shall be glad if you will let your Troops know of the G.O.C.-in-C.'s appreciation of their efforts.

(Signed) " T. O. MARDEN,
" Commanding British Troops of Occupation,
" Constantinople."

August 21st. Owing to reinforcements being received by the French Force and the withdrawal of Frontier Posts on both sides and the establishment of a neutral zone between them, a withdrawal of the Battalion was decided upon. The relief was carried out by the 1st Irish Guards from Constantinople. The Battalion then marched to Arnantkeui, where it bivouacked for the night.

August 22nd. At 9 a.m. the march was resumed to Chinon Han, a distance of about 8 miles along the hill-tops.

August 23rd. The Battalion left Chinon Han at 9 a.m. en route for Constantinople, where on arrival it was accommodated at Corps Headquarters, Harbie. The greater part of this march of 18 miles was made on a newly constructed track from 4 to 6 in. deep in sand which made the march of a most trying nature.

August 24th. At 12.30 p.m. the Battalion marched out for Galata, where it embarked in the *Waterwitch* en route for Bostandjik, which was reached at 3.30 p.m.

The Battalion had only been in camp three days when it was reported that the Kemalists (Turkish Troops) were preparing to advance on Constantinople via Haidar Pasha. Accordingly one Platoon of B Company, under the command of Lieut. W. M. Robinson, proceeded on detachment duty to

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Hereke on the Eastern Frontier of the neutral zone in order to report any movements of Kemalist Troops. In order to reinforce this detachment, the remainder of Letter B Company, under the command of Capt. W. A. Ebsworth, proceeded to Hereke on September 17th, and Capt. W. A. Ebsworth assumed command of this detachment.

Field-Marshal the Lord Plumer, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Governor and C.-in-C. Malta, was at this time paying a visit to Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Allied Forces of Occupation in Constantinople. Accordingly, on September 19th, he visited the Battalion and a Guard of Honour of 100 Other Ranks, under the command of Capt. J. P. Wylie, D.S.O., was found.

After the defeat of the Greeks by the Kemalist Troops at Smyrna, it was evident that Mustapha Kemal would push on with all speed towards Constantinople. It was soon realised that unless immediate steps were taken to prevent the advance of Kemal Pasha's Troops, a state of panic would exist in and around Constantinople. Accordingly arrangements were made for the despatch to Egypt of all British wives and children, and a state of mobilization was ordered. The detachment at Hereke was withdrawn, having been relieved by a detachment of the 2nd Essex Regiment.

From the direction of the Kemalists' advance, it was clear that Chanak was to be their goal, and thence on to Constantinople by sea. Chanak was only lightly held, the garrison consisting merely of the 1st Battn. the Loyal Regiment and the necessary departmental details. The necessity of reinforcing this garrison was at once realised, and the move of the British Forces in Constantinople, with reinforcements from Egypt and Malta, and even from home, seemed imminent. During this critical period, training was carried out by the Battalion as usual, with the exception of musketry, which was suspended two days previously.

On September 21st, at 1.15 p.m., a telephone message was received ordering the Battalion to embark at Bostandjik Pier in the *Waterwitch* at 4 p.m. Kits and heavy baggage were immediately packed and stored. Bivouacs and ground sheets and all the accessories of war were immediately issued, and by 4 p.m. the Battalion, less Boys and a few details, under the

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command of Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., had embarked with what seemed sufficient ammunition, etc., to wage a war for weeks. The *Waterwitch* then proceeded to Haidar Pasha, where was lying the *Derbyshire*. By 8 p.m. the Battalion, plus accoutrements, was safely transferred to this boat, and at about 10.30 p.m. the *Derbyshire* moved off. Our destination was known to very few, but next day at about 2 p.m. we moored off Chanak. At 3.30 p.m. disembarkation, by the aid of lighters which had been used for the same purpose at the Dardanelles during the Great War, was commenced. By 4 p.m. the whole Battalion had disembarked and were accommodated in houses and schools. On arrival, accommodation was plentiful on account of the civilian population taking the advice of the Military Authorities and evacuating to Kilia on the opposite side of the water. People who could afford the expense sent their wives and families as far as Alexandria, fearing for the worst. The business section of Chanak was made up chiefly of Greeks, and it was no unusual occurrence for these people to return from Kilia in the early morning, transact their business, now amongst a greatly increasing force of troops which proved anything but loss to them, and return to their temporary homes at Kilia in the evening.

During the first two or three days of our occupation at Chanak, poultry was sold by the distracted inhabitants awaiting passage across to Kilia at a ridiculously low price. The Officers' Mess Sergeant caused a deal of merriment one morning by driving seven fat geese along the main street for the replenishment of the Officers' Mess larder.

On arrival at Chanak the Battalion became part of the Dardanelles Sector Defence Force.

The following message was received on 23rd September from Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., Commanding Allied Forces of Occupation, Turkey.

" Very sorry to lose you from Constantinople. Am certain you will do great credit to your Commander at Chanak."

On the following and subsequent days B, C and D Companies proceeded to the Reserve Line of trenches to put them in a state of defence. At 1 p.m. on the 25th Lt.-Col. H. M. Milward, D.S.O., was ordered to take command of B, C and

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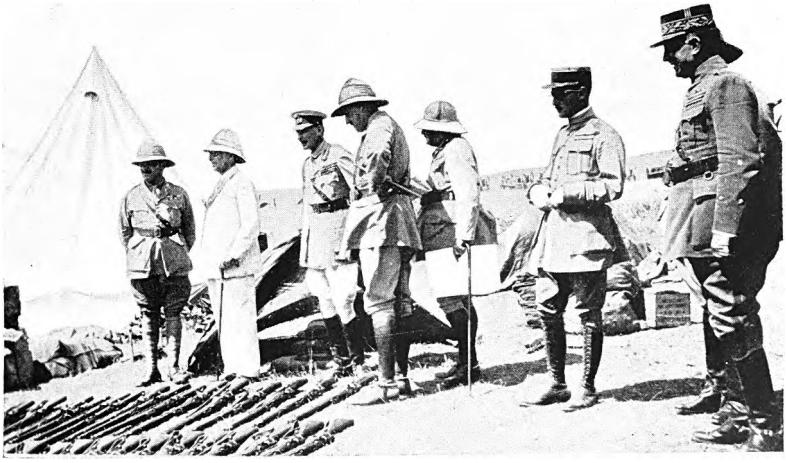
2ND BATTALION, LED BY LIEUT.-COL. MILWARD
RETURNING TO CONSTANTINOPLE FROM CHATALJA LINES



CHATALJA LINES
Left to right—Lieut.-Col. TOMLINSON, Lord LEE, Sir C. HARINGTON, Col. POPHAM, and, on right, General CHARPY

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D Companies and occupy the Gordons' Line on information being received that enemy cavalry had been located five miles from the front line, but at 3 p.m. this force was ordered to return to billets. Later, orders were received for the Battalion to form part of the Mobile Column to be formed under the command of Col. A. E. Glasgow, C.M.G., D.S.O., 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment, to drive the enemy from the neutral zone.

On the following day at 2.15 p.m. the Battalion left billets and joined the Mobile Column, halting at 5.30 p.m. half a mile north of Kephez and bivouacking.

At 9 p.m. orders were received for the Battalion to form an Advance Guard to push the Kemalists' Cavalry Patrols back to Erenkeui on the morrow.

The Kemalists were warned to evacuate Erenkeui by 11 a.m. Failing compliance of this order, ships of H.M. Navy would shell the town.

September 27th. At 8 a.m. orders were received to stand by and await orders, and former instructions *re* shelling of Kemalist area cancelled to prevent " Incident." At 2.30 p.m. large forces of Kemalist Cavalry, previously reported on our front, now moving round the left of the Mobile Column. Later, orders were received for the Battalion to withdraw to Chanak, Letter A Company acting as Rear-guard to the Force withdrawing. The Battalion eventually arrived at Chanak at 12.30 p.m. and formed part of the Divisional Reserve.

On the " break-up " of the Mobile Column on 29th September the Battalion became part of the 85th Infantry Brigade and was allotted the left line of defence.

From now the Battalion was to be responsible for the line from Aeroplane Station to the Terae-Karaja Verian Road. This line was to be held lightly by day and in strength by night to prevent it being rushed.

The following letter was received on September 30th :—

Subject : " Appreciation of G.O.C. on move of the Sherwood Foresters from Bostandjik.

" Officer Commanding,
" 2nd Bn. The Sherwood Foresters.

" The G.O.C. directs me to express to you his admiration of the very quick and soldierly manner in which you

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moved your Battalion out of Bostandjik Camp and embarked in the *Waterwitch* at such short notice on 20.9.22.

" It showed that the battalion is well commanded, organized and disciplined. (Signed) " H. STEVENS, Lt.-Col.,
"A.A. & Q.M.G.,
" 28th Division.

" Div. H.Qrs.,
" Chanak,
" 30.9.22."

Later in the day the following letter was received :—

" 28th Division.

" A message has been received from the Commander-in-Chief requesting the Divisional Commander to inform all ranks that their wonderful forbearance in trying circumstances has been warmly approved by H.M. Cabinet.

(Signed) " S. COMB. SCOBELL, Lt.-Col.,
" 30.9.22." " General Staff, 28th Division."

October 1st–8th. These days were spent in consolidation of positions and wiring.

The following was received on 2nd October from H.Q., 28th Division :—

" Lt.-General Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces in Turkey, has wired that he, accompanied by the G.O.C.'s French and Italian Corps of Occupation, are going to Mudania to-morrow, Tuesday, to meet Mustapha Kemal Pasha with a view to arrange an armistice. He wishes all ranks at Chanak to know how much the world has appreciated their self-restraint under very trying circumstances."

Major-Gen. T. O. Marden, C.B., C.M.G., Commanding at Chanak, sent a message to G.O.C. Turkish Cavalry Corps asking him not to push troops within 1000 yards of our advanced posts so as to avoid regrettable incidents.

" Until official orders had been received that an armistice had been concluded, our efforts for the protection of Chanak must not be relaxed in any way.

" General Marden thanks all ranks for the whole-hearted

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manner in which they have worked to put Chanak in a state of defence, and is confident, if called upon, we can hold this place for the Empire."

October 3rd. The Battalion was detailed to defend the centre sub-sector.

October 4th–8th. This period was spent in consolidation of our defences and reliefs by Companies in occupation of the Front Line.

October 9th. During the afternoon a rather exciting incident, which might have proved serious, occurred. It was only owing to the restraint of our men that " incident " was averted. At 5 p.m. a mounted party of three officers and fifteen men approached our wire from the S.E. On being intercepted they said that they had lost their way and apologized. They were ordered back to Karaja Verian. At 6.30 p.m. this party returned along the track running S.S.W. on Hill 73, where one of our forward posts was situated. Lieut. Wilmot informed the leading officer that he must go round the front of the post. He was very rude and said: " You are going to London in three days and we are going to Constantinople. It is our country and I am coming this way." He then dashed past followed by another officer and about four men. The remainder obeyed the order of the rear officer and went round the front of the post. The Turks were all round this post and it was with greatest difficulty that our men were prevented from opening fire.

October 11th. At 1.15 p.m. we were informed by Brigade H.Q. that the situation was now such that an ultimatum may be issued to the Turks to withdraw to a certain line within a specified time. At 2.15 p.m. B Company reported that about 400 Turks had withdrawn within the last half-hour along the Karaja Verian-Usbuk Road.

At 10 p.m. 85th Brigade order that for the present no further work on the defences or the wire was to be done. A strict watch will, however, be kept on the Turks and sufficient troops to repel surprise attacks kept at hand.

12th October. Information was received from H.Q. 85th Brigade that the Turks signed the Convention at Mudania at 6.42 a.m. yesterday.

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The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief has wired the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief at Chanak as follows :—

" Will you please accept my greatest thanks and convey the same to Colonel Shuttleworth and all ranks under you for their wonderful restraint. There exists no finer example of discipline, and the whole credit for the result obtained rests with you all at Chanak.

" The General Officer Commanding wishes to add his thanks to those of the Commander-in-Chief to all Battalions in the front line whose patience has been severely tried during the past ten days.

" Military precautions will not be relaxed until the Turks withdraw from our Front."

At 3.30 p.m. on this day B Company reported that the Turks had begun to dribble back, also that two posts had gone from Hill 73 and sentry gone from farmhouse.

The following Special Order of the day issued by Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., was received :—

" I am glad to be able to announce that the three Allied Generals were able to reach a satisfactory agreement with the representatives of the Government of the Grand National Assembly, this morning, at Mudania. The details of the Convention will be announced shortly. I hasten, however, to say that this arrangement was only made possible for two reasons : (*a*) The wonderful forbearance of the British Troops in the most trying circumstances. That forbearance has won for them the admiration of all. They have never been out of my thoughts. Their attitude is a very fine example of British discipline. (*b*) The action of the Government in sending out such splendid reinforcements, both Naval, Military and Air Force without delay.

" I am confident that the Convention we have signed to-day will remove all pressure and danger from the British Troops and will help considerably towards the establishment of a lasting peace. I am very grateful to all ranks of the British Forces for the warm support which has been extended to me in a difficult situation."

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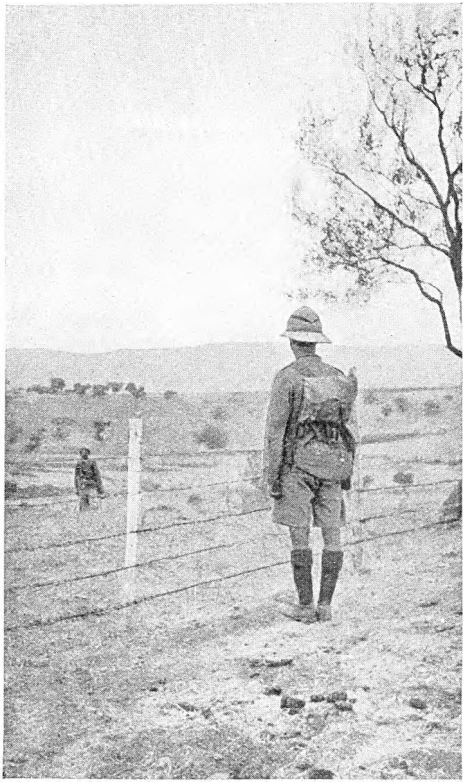
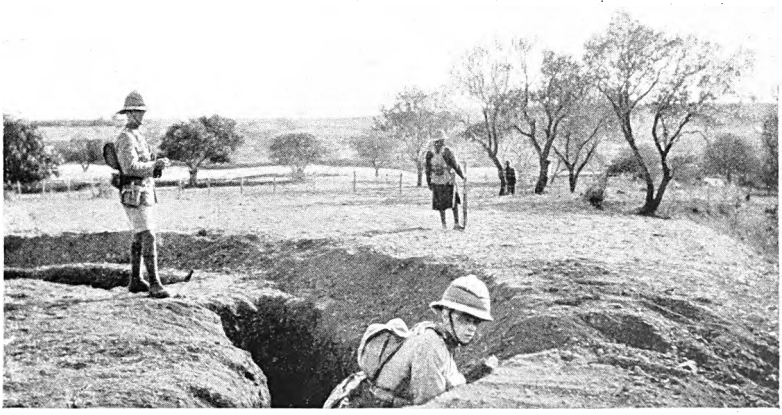


OPPOSING SENTRIES: WINDMILL HILL, CHANAK



SENTRY GROUP NEAR CHANAK: TURKISH SENTRY UNDER TREE

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October 13th. At 10.15 a.m. Letter D Company report that all Turkish posts on our front have been withdrawn.

October 14th. No sign of Turks visible on our front. Consequently posts on Hill 73 and Windmill Hill were withdrawn.

October 16th–20th. Situation remains unchanged. During this period the Battalion was ordered to move billets. The major part of the Battalion was accommodated in the Florence Nightingale Hospital on the Northern Boundary of Chanak. Imagine the consternation, after the trouble of moving, etc., was near completion, when orders were received on 20th October for the Battalion to embark on H.T. *Huntsgreen* on 22nd. The usual inspection of equipment, rifles and greatcoats, necessary before embarkation for India, was commenced, but just as the Battalion was prepared for the inspection it was decided that it should be postponed until arrival in India.

October 22nd. The following messages were received from and sent to Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Allied Forces of Occupation in Turkey :—

" To : Colonel Popham, Foresters, Chanak.

" From : Genl. Harington, Constantinople.

" Am so sorry difficulties of situation in Thrace prevented me getting to see you before you leave.

" I thank you and all ranks for all that you have done for me. You came with a fine record. You leave with a fine record. Peace as secured is due to the discipline and restraint of the troops at Chanak.

" I have written to General Smith-Dorrien telling him how proud I am to have had the Battalion under me. Good luck to you all."

" To : Genl. Sir Chas. Harington, Constantinople.

" From : Foresters.

" All Ranks join in thanking you for your kind and appreciative telegram aaa. They heartily congratulate you on your recent great success and hope some day to serve under your command again."

October 23rd. The Battalion embarked in H.T. *Huntsgreen* for India under the command of Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham,

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C.M.G., D.S.O. Embarking strength: 19 Officers, 469 Other Ranks.

The following messages were received on embarking :—

" To : Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
" Commanding 2nd Sherwood Foresters.

" I cannot allow the 2nd Bn. The Sherwood Foresters to sail for India without saying how proud and pleased I have been to have had them under my command once again since they left the old 6th Division in March, 1919. I wish to express my admiration of their soldierly bearing and conduct on all the different occasions on which I, as Divisional Commander, have been brought into contact with them.

" Well disciplined and officered and maintaining a thoroughly sound system of discipline and interior economy, the Battalion is a credit to its County and to the Service.

" I wish the Battalion the best of luck in India, and am sure that wherever it may go it will be welcome and will acquit itself with honour.

(Signed) " T. O. MARDEN, Major.-Gen.,
" Commanding 28th Division."

" CHANAK,
" 23.10.22.

" DEAR COLONEL POPHAM,

" Will you convey to your Battalion my regrets at being unable to wish them good-bye in person owing to my having to conduct the visit to Hellas and also that fate has decreed that our acquaintance should have been so short. I have been much impressed by the splendid efforts put in by all ranks in their hard work on the positions which had to be made in such a hurry to meet the possible emergency, and as an old Battalion Commander and Regimental Officer admired greatly the soldierly appearance and turn-out of your Battalion, the smartness of the various Guards I saw or met on the way to their duties, and the apple-pie order of the camp at Ishiklar when I paid it a chance visit one evening, all of which point to a high degree of discipline and administration, reflecting great credit on yourself and your Officers. I hope that your very fine Battalion may have

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opportunities in India for further adding to its laurels, and wish you all every possible success.

" Yours sincerely,

(Signed) "A. THACKERAY BECKWITH, Colonel Comdt.,
" Comdg. 85th Infy. Bde."

October 26th. Battalion arrived at Port Said.

Married families embarked on 27th October.

October 28th. Battalion left Port Said in continuance of voyage to India. Owing to a suspected case of small-pox amongst the crew of the *Huntsgreen*, the Battalion, including the families, was vaccinated and inoculated.

During the voyage several well-organized concerts and a boxing tournament were thoroughly appreciated. The crew were not to be outdone, so they decided to present a concert, which proved highly successful, and was characterized by the talent, which included some humorous dialogues and the latest songs from the London Music-halls. These were specially attractive on account of the paucity of chances to witness such performances whilst leading our nomadic existence in Turkey.

On the 8th November the Battalion arrived at and disembarked at Karachi after a most pleasant voyage. Owing to the long train ride which lay before us, we spent four days in the Rest Camp at Karachi in order to stretch our legs after the confinement of a long sea voyage.

The Battalion entrained on 12th November for Rawalpindi, arriving at its destination on the early morning of the 16th, and proceeded to Victoria Barracks, which had been vacated by the 1st Battalion The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

On the 20th November the following letter was received from Col. H. C. Wylly, C.B. :—

" As one who has served with the Battalion for 23 years and all through its last tour of Indian Service, 1882–99, Col. Wylly sends to all ranks of his dear old Corps the very best wishes for all possible good luck in the third Indian tour upon which the Battalion has now started."

The Divisional Commander, Major-Gen. Sir H. Uniacke, K.C.M.G., C.B., inspected the Battalion at work on 21st November.

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Gen. Sir Wm. Birdwood, Bt., G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., C.I.E., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, inspected the Battalion on parade on 6th December, after which he made reference to the excellent reputation with which the Battalion had arrived in India.

December 8th. The following was received from the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien :—

Extract from a personal letter dated 18th October, 1922, from Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, C.B., D.S.O., C.-in-C. British Forces at Constantinople, to Gen. Sir H. Smith-Dorrien.

" I have been trying for some time to get an opportunity to send you a line to tell you what a splendid Battalion the Foresters with me is. It is far and away the best Battalion I have seen since the War. It came to me with a great reputation from Congreve as his best Battalion, and it is certainly mine. The Battalion is very well commanded by Popham, and has a thoroughly good tone and system from top to bottom. It is now at Chanak and is one of the Battalions which deserve great credit for their patience and restraint during a very trying time.

" It speaks volumes for their discipline, and it is entirely owing to them that we were able to attain some measure of success at Mudania. I am sorry to say the Foresters are leaving almost at once, as the War Office has wired out to say that they are wanted urgently for reliefs."

' In circulating the above, the Colonel of the Regiment is sure such high praise of the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters (The old 95th Derbyshire Regiment) will be most gratifying, not only to all Sherwood Foresters, past and present, but to the Counties of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and further that all will agree that great credit is due to all ranks of that Battalion and especially to Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., and his predecessor, Lt.-Col. R. J. F. Taylor, C.B.E., who commanded them in Egypt when they were under Lt.-Gen. Sir W. Congreve, V.C., K.C.B., M.V.O.'

From now onwards training in all its branches was carried out, and on 27th and 28th February the Battalion took part

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in a tactical exercise at Riwat, forming part of the Mobile Column. For its work in this exercise the Battalion was highly complimented by the Brigade Commander, who expressed himself well pleased with the way in which Section Commanders had handled their commands.

With the advent of the hot weather season the Battalion proceeded by march route on 7th and 8th April to the Hill Station at Kuldana. Here musketry was soon in full swing, but good results could not be expected on account of the bad ranges and the ever-present mist in the Khuds.

Company Commanders soon realized that here was the ideal place for mountain warfare training, and every possible advantage was taken to exercise the Battalion in their various arms in this particular kind of warfare.

On the 4th May Col.-Comdt. H. De Pree, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding Rawalpindi District, inspected the Battalion at work, and expressed satisfaction of all he saw.

On H.M. The King Emperor's birthday, which was celebrated on 3rd June, the Battalion fired a *feu-de-joie*, after which photographs of the Battalion on parade were taken.

Two gallant Foresters have left us during the year in the persons of Lt.-Col. and Q.M. F. Tomlinson, O.B.E., M.C., and Major H. F. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O., who have left for civil life, and we take this opportunity of wishing them every success. We must also take the opportunity of thanking the latter for the way in which he interested himself in the erection and unveiling of the memorial tablet erected in the Garrison Church, Mustapha, Alexandria, after the Battalion had left Egypt. He was every bit a Forester, and his services will be sorely missed. An appreciation of the former officer's service will be found elsewhere in this "Annual."

A Memorial Tablet erected to the memory of the undermentioned Men and Children of the Battalion who died during the time it was stationed in Egypt (4.9.19 to 6.4.22) was unveiled in the Garrison Church, Mustapha, on the 4th April, 1923, by Major H. F. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O., late of the Regiment. By the kindness of the Officer Commanding, the Last Post and Reveille was sounded by the Drummers of the 1st Battalion the Hampshire Regiment. A collection made

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at the Service, amounting to £2 10s., was kindly given to the Old Comrades' Association of the Regiment.

Men

Pte. C. Wilson.	Pte. A. Cornish.	Pte. J. Ellis.
Pte. F. Griffin.	Pte. S. Holton.	Pte. G. W. Lings.
Pte. G. W. Eyre.	Pte. F. Berbank.	Pte. G. Blackburn.
Pte. E. J. Bignall.	Pte. G. Walker, M.M.	

Children

Reuben James Piper.	Christopher Piper.
Joyce Lound.	Roy Dady.
Patrick Lymn.	

GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS

R.S.M. C. F. Hobbs.
R.Q.M.S. W. Noble.
C.S.M. H. Underwood, D.C.M., M.M.
Sergt. W. H. Palmer.

BIRTHS

To R.Q.M.S. W. Noble, a son, 20.7.23.
To C.S.M. W. McDermott, a daughter, 20,6.23.
To Pte. S. Mitchell, a daughter, 17.11.22.
To Sergt. J. W. Sutton, a son, 13.8.23.

DEATHS

Charles Frederick, son of Sergt. C. W. Butler, at sea, 8.12.22.
George, son of Pte. G. Gill, at Cliffden, Murree Hills, 7.5.23.

HOCKEY

Owing to the loss of so many of our last year's players, our hockey out here up to date has had to be very largely of an experimental nature. Of our last year's team we badly miss Major J. H. Mathias, O.B.E., Lieuts. Jacques and Nevitt, C.Q.M.S.'s Howarth and Bastow, Sergt. Crump and Corpl. Hollins, while in addition Lieut. Walker has been away from the Battalion for the greater part of the season. The team has therefore varied considerably and has not in fact actually

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ever been the same in two matches running, the idea being the discovery of fresh talent. To this, and to the fact that hockey in this country is of a higher standard than prevails elsewhere, may be attributed our recent lack of success.

In Pindi we played a Regimental match on the average about twice a week, our opponents usually being rather too good for us. Our best effort undoubtedly was a draw with the R.A.M.C., who were runners-up in the Northern Command Competition this year. We entered for this Competition, but were knocked out in the first round by the 24th Brigade R.F.A., who beat us 2–1 after a fast and even game.

In Murree we entered for the Lintott Shield, a tournament open to the North of India, but were again defeated in the first round, this time by the Seaforth Highlanders, 3–2 after extra time. This defeat was a great disappointment, as previous to it the team had improved considerably, but the better side undoubtedly won on the day. We have also entered for the Murree Cup, which is to be competed for in September. Our ground in Murree is unfortunately some considerable distance from the Barracks and is also about 800 feet below them. This involves a very stiff climb after a game, and is probably responsible for the lack of interest taken in hockey up here on the whole. The weather is also very much against us.

Though the Regimental team has so far met with poor success, there is no doubt that company hockey has improved enormously since we landed in this country. H.Q. Wing and C Company are probably the best at present, but the standard all round is far higher than was reached in Egypt. This will, of course, affect Regimental play, and next year there is no reason why the Regimental team should not be as successful as it was in Egypt.

The following have been playing regularly for the Battalion : Capts. Wylie, D.S.O., and Kenny, Lieuts. Walker (during the short time he has been with us), Wilmot, Stott and Coxon, Bandsman Baker and Pte. Turner.

The following have played in three or more games : Capt. Wright, Lieuts. Cavendish, M.C., and Dean, 2nd Lieut. Yeldham, Sergts. Sutton and White, Lce.-Corpls. Saxby and Clarke, Ptes. Edge and Gower.

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Football Record, 1922–23

The Football record of the 2nd Battalion for 1922–23 falls short of the standard maintained during the past few years, which is mainly due to the loss of several of the regular members of the team. Lieut. Nevitt, Corpl. Sheffield, Sergt. Jennings, Corpl. Winkle, Ptes. Taylor and Laxon having left the Battalion for the U.K., it was impossible to replace them with anything like such experienced players, and the selection and training of new blood was no easy matter if we were to uphold the successful reputation which we enjoyed in the past.

In carrying out this training we were severely handicapped during the few months of the year which we were able to devote to the game, but it will be seen that some progress was made, and the younger element with more experience should give a better account of themselves next year.

During the six months spent in Turkey football was practically at a standstill. Both at Bostandjik on the Asiatic side and Hadem-Keui on the European side there were no grounds at our disposal for football. From Bostandjik we moved to Chanak, and during our stay of about a month at the latter place we were under Active Service conditions and football was out of the question. The Battalion arrived in India in November, 1922, and on settling down in Rawalpindi efforts were made to reform the team, and the following results show promise of better success in the near future :—

2nd Batt. Gloucestershire Regiment 3, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters 0.

2nd Batt. Gloucestershire Regiment 4, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters 2.

52nd Light Infantry 6, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters 1.

52nd Light Infantry 1, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters 4.

Royal Corps Signals 0, 2nd Batt Sherwood Foresters 2.

D.M.T. Column 0, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters 1.

In the A.S.C.B. Competition which followed, the results were as under :—

1st Round : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 5, D.M.T. Column 0.

Semi-final : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 4, Royal Corps Signals 1.

Final : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 0, 52nd Light Infantry 3.

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A few weeks later the team journeyed to Lahore to compete for the Lahore Trades Cup, one of the largest trophies in India. It was in this competition that the team distinguished itself and it was only a stroke of bad luck which prevented it bringing the cup back to Rawalpindi, being beaten by the holders by the odd goal in three after leading at half-time 1–0.

In the First Round we met the Northamptonshire Regiment no less than three times. The results were as follows :—

1st Round : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 3, Northants 3. 2nd Sherwood Foresters 2, Northants 2. 2nd Sherwood Foresters 3, Northants 0.

Semi-final : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 1, 3/6 Dragoon Guards 0.

Final : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 1, 2nd Brigade R.F.A. (holders) 2.

A decided improvement in the team was noticed from this onward, and the 52nd Light Infantry suffered a defeat of 2–0 on its return to Rawalpindi.

In April, 1923, the Battalion moved to the Murree Hills, and we found ourselves at Kuldana without a ground again.

In the competition for the Murree Cup the Battalion did well in the opening stages, but was knocked out in the semi-final by the Gloucesters, who eventually won the Cup. Results :—

1st Round : 2nd Sherwood Foresters bye.

2nd Round : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 4, R.A.F. 0.

3rd Round : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 2, Lancashire Fusiliers (holders) 1.

Semi-final : 2nd Sherwood Foresters 2, Gloucesters 3.

The match versus the Lancashire Fusiliers in the 2nd Round was the best game of the Tournament, and some excellent football was witnessed.

Cricket

The Cricket season, 1922, was handicapped by the moves necessitated by Kemalist activities. However, in spite of this, we were very successful in those games we played. There was no League at Bostandjik for Regimental Teams, but we played several friendly games against the Irish Guards, the Buffs,

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3rd Hussars and the Constantinople Cricket Club, all of which matches we won.

A Company League was organised for all Troops in the British Forces in Turkey, and in this we were doing well; D Company being first and H.Q. Company second, but again bad luck followed us, for we had to move to Chanak, and this League had to be cancelled.

The Regimental Inter-Company Cricket Shield was also competed for at Bostandjik; B Company, the holders, again won, defeating A Company in the final after an interesting game.

At Chanak we were unable to play any games. On leaving Chanak we were unfortunate in losing several of our Regimental players—Major Watson, who had successfully captained the team for the last two years, Lieut. Jacques, who was Secretary, and one of our best all-round players, Lieut. Nevitt and Sergt. Jennings, our wicket-keeper.

When passing through Port Said we played a match against the P.S.C.C., which we lost after an even game. This was only to be expected, as they had a very strong team, and we had not played for some time.

On arrival at Rawalpindi we were fortunate in finding a very good club cricket ground, and commenced playing several trial games to find fresh talent.

We arrived too late to enter for the Cup for the Army in India, but entered for the " Jamasjee Cup " for all Regiments in the Northern Army. We reached the semi-final for this cup in our district, and were then beaten by the R.A.M.C., the eventual winners. Lieut. Walker and Sergt. Sutton both batted well and Lieut. Coxon was very successful in the attack. Captain Shaw of the R.A.M.C., however, bowled exceptionally well and was the man responsible for our defeat.

We have not been able to play much since coming to Kuldana, owing to there being only one ground, which is used for all games, and consequently difficult to obtain for all-day matches.

We hope that on our return to Rawalpindi, where we have a ground in our Barracks, we may be able to regain our old form.

We have been most unfortunate in losing the services of

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Lieut. Walker, our best player, on his being appointed to the Staff. We have several promising players coming on, Sergts. Wright and Newbury, Lce.-Corpl. Cresswell and Pte. Pratt.

2nd Lieut. Yeldham, who has just joined us, promises to be a most useful addition to our team.

Our regular players are now: Lieuts. Cavendish, Stott, Coxon, 2nd Lieut. Yeldham, Sergt. Sutton, Lce.-Corpl. Saxby, Bandsmen Baker, Marks and Spencer, Ptes. Stringfellow and Turner.

The players who have been most successful during the season were: Lieut. Walker, Lieut. Coxon, Lieut. Stott, Sergt. Sutton and Bandsman Baker.

Polo Notes

Continuing our notes where left off in the last "Annual" we played in two more tournaments on the Maltepe Polo Ground near Bostandjik before leaving for Chanak and India. The first being open to teams with handicaps limited to a total of six, was well supported, six teams entering: 3rd Hussars (2), Foxhunters, R.F.A. (2), and ourselves.

Our team, composed of Col. Milward, Col. Hart, Capt. Ebsworth and Lieut. Cavendish, beat one of the R.F.A. teams in the first round and one of the 3rd Hussars teams in the second. In the final we were beaten by the Foxhunters after a very close and exciting game.

Shortly afterwards an open tournament was organised, and we again reached the final after beating an R.F.A. team in the first round and a team from the European side in the second. Our team in this tournament was composed as follows: Col. Milward, Capt. Gamble, Capt. Ebsworth and Lieut. Cavendish. In the final we again met the Foxhunters, and only lost by the odd goal after a fast galloping game. Thus in three tournaments in succession we reached the final, but were unable to quite win through.

That was the end of our polo in Turkey, as we moved to the Chatalja Lines and later to Chanak, selling our six private ponies to the 3rd Hussars before departure.

On arrival in India we were faced with the problem of getting together a reasonably good lot of ponies at prices

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within the capacity of our purses. However, we had managed to get together enough ponies to play in the second of the two tournaments held in Rawalpindi, " The Tradesmen's Cup."

The following teams entered: The Guides Cavalry, Peshawar Gymkhana, 8th Cavalry, 11th P.A.V.O. Cavalry, Royal Scots Greys, 52nd Light Infantry, 2nd Gloucestershire Regiment and Foresters.

Our team, composed as follows: Lt.-Col. Hart (1), Capt. Gamble (2), Lt.-Col. Milward (3) and Capt. Ebsworth (back), drew the P.A.V.O. Cavalry in the first round and received three goals from them on handicap. We had a really fast galloping game, scoring in the 3rd chukka, so that when time was called the score stood at 4 all. Goals were widened and extra time played. Capt. Dening, now playing for the famous " Tigers " in England, shot a goal from nearly the middle of the ground, so finishing a very exciting and well-fought game.

In the Subsidiary Tournament we lost, rather unexpectedly, to the 52nd Light Infantry by 5–3 after giving them one goal on handicap.

In April we moved up to the Hills and started playing polo on the Gharial Flats about three miles away from our Barracks. In June a three-a-side tournament was organised, the following teams entering: 52nd Light Infantry (3), District H.Q. (1), I.A.S.C. (1), Foresters (2). Our teams were composed as follows: "A" Team—Col. Hart, Capt. Gamble and Capt. Ebsworth; " B " Team—Col. Milward, Capt. Platt and Lieut. Cavendish. In the first round our two teams drew one another, and " B " Team beat "A" by 1 goal after a good game. In the second round " B " Team were beaten by District H.Q., the eventual winners of the tournament.

In the first round of the Subsidiary Tournament our " A " Team beat a 52nd Light Infantry team, and in the final beat another 52nd Light Infantry team, so winning the Subsidiary Tournament.

In addition to the players already mentioned the following are starting to play: Lieuts. Wilmot and Coxon and 2nd Lieut. Yeldham.

Mention must here be made of the terrible loss to polo in the Battalion that will be felt in the departure to civilian life of Lt.-Col. Milward. Since the Battalion arrived in Egypt in

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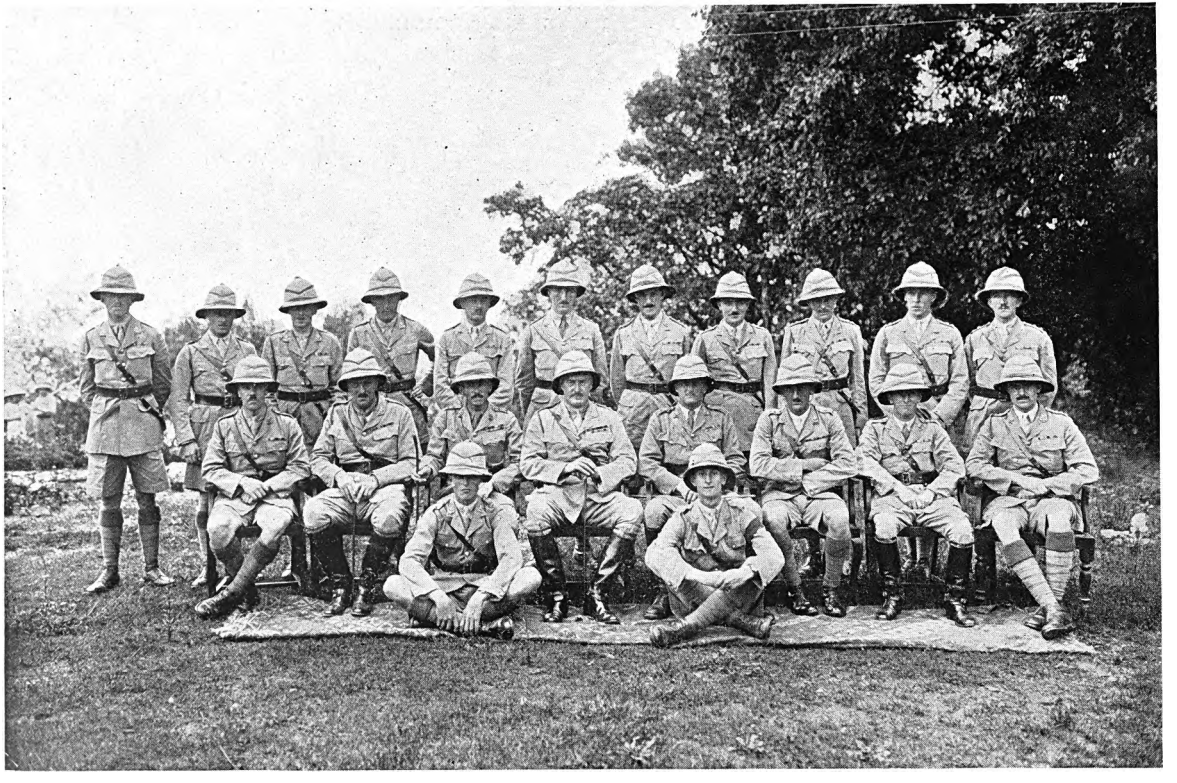

OFFICERS, 2ND BATTALION

Back Row—Standing—Left to Right—Lieuts. R. E. H. STOTT, E. A. COXON, Capt. J. E. WRIGHT, Lieuts. H G. FOWLER, C. R. T. WILMOT, J. W. TURNER, M.C., W. M. ROBINSON, Capt. W. A. PLATT, Lieuts. A A. DEAN. R. V. C. CAVENDISH, M.C., and R. J. WILKINS.
Second Row -Sitting—Left to Right—Capt. M. J. KENNY. Major R. T. FOSTER, D.S.O., Major (Bvt.-Lieut.-Col.) R. S. HART, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. R. S. POPHAM, C.M.G., D.S.O., Major (Bvt.-Lieut.-Col.) H. M. MILWARD, D.S.O., Capt. J. P. WYLIE, D.S.O., Capt. G. M. GAMBLE, Capt. W. A. EBSWORTH.
Bottom Row—Sitting—Left to Right—2nd Lieuts. R. E. S. YELDHAM, and H. W. H. HOUGHTON.

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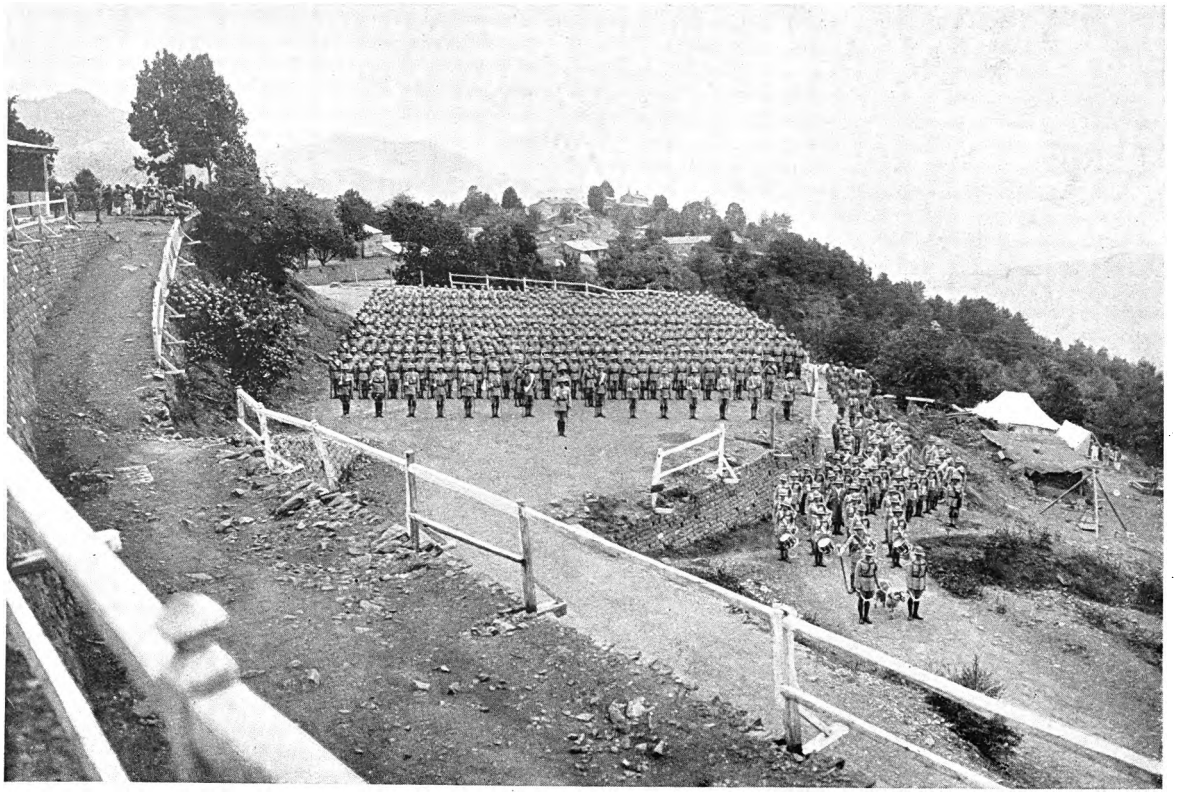

KING EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY PARADE
KULDANA, 1923

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1919 he has been the life and soul of polo in the Battalion. No trouble in connection with the game has been too great for him to tackle, and one and all who have had the pleasure and fortune to play with him and to be instructed by him in the mysteries of the game tender him the sincerest of thanks. His disappearance from the polo ground will leave a serious gap in our team.

Boxing Notes

The quality of boxing in the Battalion has improved considerably during the last twelve months, and, if training is consistently carried on, a first-class team should be available for competing in the Rawalpindi District and Northern Command Championships next cold weather.

The following are the various competitions in which we have taken part since landing in India :—

INTER-COMPANY NOVICES' COMPETITION

This competition for the possession of Col.-Cmdt. Blake's Cup was held in the Gymnasium at Rawalpindi on January 29th and 31st and February 2nd and 3rd. 109 entries were received and some very spirited and plucky fights were seen. C Company again won the cup for the second successive year after a close struggle with D Company. The order and points gained were as follows : C Company, 68 ; D Company, 59 ; A Company, 30 ; H.Q. Company, 28 ; B Company, 26. The winners and runners-up were :—

Light-Heavy : Bandsman Baker, H.Q. Company ; Pte. Parker, C Company.

Feather : Pte. Adams, H.Q. Company ; Pte. Cooper, D Company.

Middle : Pte. Smith, C Company ; Lce.-Corpl. Bee, C Company.

Fly-Weight : Pte. Beard, H.Q. Company ; Pte. McGuirk, A Company.

Light-Weight : Pte. Allden, B Company ; Lce.-Corpl. White, A Company.

Welter : Pte. Booth, B Company ; Pte. Eeles, C Company.

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RAWALPINDI DISTRICT TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

Held in the Rink, Rawalpindi, on March 8th, 9th and 10th, the winning team to enter in the Northern Command Championship. Our team, though younger and less experienced than those entered by other units, did very well and came in a good second, out of the four entrants, to the 2nd Gloucestershire Regiment, the winners.

Our team was composed as follows : Sergt. Palmer, Bandsman Baker, Pte. Norris, Sergt. Booth, Lce.-Corpl. Cresswell, Pte. Trout, Corpl. Ballinger, Drummer Timson, Pte. Symns, Lce-.Corpl. Caxby, Pte. Pemberton, Pte. Adams, Pte. Beard, Boy Grimes.

In the Individual Competitions we carried off three weights as follows :—

Middle : Lce.-Corpl. Cresswell.

Light-Heavy : Pte. Lovett.

Bantam : Pte. Trout.

In the final of the Welters, Pte. Peat was knocked out in the third round.

NORTHERN COMMAND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Pte. Shardlow fought his way through to the final of the Middle Weight, but was beaten on points after a good fight by Sergt. Smith, of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

In the Officers' Heavy Weight final, Lieut. H. G. Fowler was knocked out in the second round after a very plucky fight. In the semi-final of the Officers' Light Weight, Capt. G. M. Gamble was knocked out in the first round.

BATTALION CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were held at Kuldana in June and attracted a good entry, 62 in number.

The fighting in the preliminary rounds was good, but the semi-finals and finals were very disappointing, many good boxers saving their energies rather than hurt their opponents. The following were the winners :—

Heavy : Corpl. Payton.

Fly : Corpl. Crawley.

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Light-Heavy : Bandsman Baker.
Light : Pte. Barnett.
Feather : Drummer Timson.
Middle : Lce.-Corpl. Cresswell.
Bantam : Pte. Symns.
Welter : (Both finalists disqualified).

CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE MURREE HILLS

This meeting, entirely organised by the Battalion, was a great success. Good cups were given, and the tournament was thrown open to units in any part of India. The enormous entry of 205 was received, and of those 175 actually weighed in. Twenty-five different regiments and corps were represented, some of the boxers coming from as far away as Dinapore and Landi Kotal. Owing to the excellent support given to the meeting, five days' boxing was found to be necessary in order to work through to the finals. The fighting took place in the Rink, Murree, from the 9th to the 13th of July.

Considering the quality of the boxing, which was, throughout the meeting, of a very high standard, the Regiment did very well indeed in carrying off five cups (2 firsts and 3 seconds). We entered 19 N.C.O.'s and men ourselves, and many had to go through several gruelling fights only to be put out of the running in the later stages. The following N.C.O.'s and men of the Battalion received cups :—

Corpl. Payton (two), runner-up in both the Heavies and the Light-Heavies.

Pte. Shardlow, runner-up in the Middle-Weights.

Sergt. Booth, winner of the Welter-Weights.

Drummer Timson, winner of the Feather-Weights.

RIFLE SHOOTING

On 29th April, 1923, the Regimental Rifle Club was re-started for the first time since the War. Since that date Regimental Rifle Club Shoots have been held every Thursday and Sunday, except when prevented by the weather. The average attendance is about a hundred.

These shoots are somewhat handicapped by the Range at Kuldana, which only allows of shooting at one distance each

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day. This is caused by the firing-points and butts being divided by deep valleys, necessitating a long and arduous mountain climb when walking from one to the other. No idea of field practices can therefore be entertained.

We have not, up to date, had the opportunity of taking on other Regimental teams owing to distances and range accommodation, but we hope to when we return to Rawalpindi. Numerous Inter-Company and Inter-Rank Competitions have, however, taken place.

These Club Shoots have also done a great deal to improve the shooting in the Annual Course, and as most of the third-class shots attend regularly, it is hoped that next year our Musketry average may approach the pre-War standard of the British Army.

Athletic Sports

Immediately upon our arrival in Rawalpindi, a running track was prepared round the football ground on the Maidan, and two mornings monthly were devoted to Athletic Tests. Great keenness was shown by all ranks in trying to pass the tests, and considering the short time available before the end of the year, very creditable results were obtained. We finished the year by having two mornings on which the cross-country test was run, the course being about four miles of undulating country, half on roads and half over rough ground, ending up with a stiff stretch of ploughed land, followed by crossing a steep nullah, which made many of us wish we had had a few weeks' khud climbing to prepare us.

For the Athletic Shield, 2 points are allotted for the major events and 1 point for the shorter distances, with an additional 2 points for a man completing every event. Quite a large number managed to obtain the extra 2 points, although the high-jump standard of 4 ft. was too much for many.

Letter D Company, under Lt.-Col. H. M. Milward, D.S.O., came first in the Shield Competition with a total of 43 per cent. of points obtainable, with C Company (Capt. J. P. Wylie, D.S.O.) a good second with 39 per cent.

In January we started again for this year's Competition, and keenness was greater than ever. The Sports Committee reduced the standard time for the Half Mile Marching Order

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to 4½ mins., and that of the Quarter Mile to 70 secs., the other events remaining as before.

Up to April we had two or three days monthly for the Competition, and all Companies were fairly level, but since our move to Kuldana we have had to postpone everything except the two jumps until we get to the Plains again, owing to lack of space. However, after six months of aping the mountain goat up the numerous khuds at Kuldana, little things like a Half Mile Marching Order on the flat will be child's play.

Of athletics against other units we have had little. A cross-country team had bad luck in losing at the Rawalpindi Military Tournament in March, as also did a relay team from H.Q. Company on the same day.

The Northern Command Athletic Sports were arranged for 14th and 16th July, but unfortunately fell through. We arranged a meeting to take place at Gharial Flats between the 52nd Light Infantry, Signals, and ourselves on July 14th instead, but unfortunately, owing to the rains, we have had to postpone them until September, when we hope to do well, as we have some promising runners and jumpers. Sergt. Howell has trained two tug-of-war teams, both of which promise very well, especially the light-weight team, who, shame to say, pulled over the heavies recently.

Pte. Goodrum, H.Q. Company, ran in the Open Quarter mile at the Sports of the 52nd Light Infantry, and came in a good second.

Royal Army Temperance Association

For the first time since 1914 a branch of the R.A.T.A. has been started in the Battalion.

A meeting was held on July 17th, and the Branch formed with 150 Members. The Institute has been opened and the membership now stands at 350.

As the Hills are rather unsuitable for the usual R.A.T.A. activities, it is expected that there will be plenty of it when the Battalion moves to the Plains.

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VI

DEPOT NOTES

LIFE at the Depot is still running very smoothly, on the lines of Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse's scheme, which has been finally approved by the War Office for all Depots.

After an exhaustive trial the scheme has proved its worth. Recruits now leave the Depot in squads to join the Home Battalion. They are fully trained, having completed Table " A " Musketry, and in most cases have obtained a 3rd Class School Certificate. This greatly assists the Officer Commanding the Home Battalion, as it enables him to concentrate on advanced training with the Companies, and gives the Educational Staff a chance to push forward with 1st and 2nd Class candidates.

General Sir Ivor Maxse, at his last inspection, paid the Depot a very high compliment when he said, " I see no fault in this Depot."

During the past year we have had 445 recruits, of which 321 have been posted to the Home Battalion.

Under A.O. 99/1923 the Establishment of the Depot has been cut down very considerably, and although the shortage of Staff has been felt considerably, we have managed to keep up our end as of old.

This particular A.O. took 3 C.Q.M.S.'s, 3 C.S.M.'s and 4 Sergts. off the Depot Staff. This was in consequence of the new Militia being placed temporarily in abeyance. The establishment of Drummers was also reduced from 10 to 3. This meant that the Depot Band had to go, officially—but quite unofficially we can still raise a band to march the troops to Church. They are now under the care of Mr. S. Howarth, who will be remembered as Bandmaster of the 2nd Battalion. They are assisted by ex-C.Q.M.S. Howarth, who is now employed as Civilian Orderly Room Clerk at the Depot, and C.S.M. Howarth, D.C.M., C.S.M. of the Recruits' Company.

During the past year the Depot competed in the various

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Football Competitions in Derby and District. We finished runners-up in the League, and once again won the Derby Wednesday Cup, after what was described by Officials of the Derby Football Association as "one of the best local finals seen in Derby."

We entered in the Army Cup and played the 1st Batt. Durham Light Infantry at York in the second round, being rather unfortunate, losing our best outside left in the first five minutes of the game. We lost 2–1. We have again entered for the Army Cup, and have been drawn against the 2nd Batt. North Staffordshire Regiment, now stationed at Lichfield, in the first round. The game is to be played at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield.

The Depot Recruits reached the final of the Northern Command Inter-Depot Challenge Cup, but lost to the Depot, Durham Light Infantry, in the final. We are hoping to play as well again this season, having already beaten the Depot, North Staffordshire Regiment, at Lichfield, 2–1. We meet the Depot, South Staffordshire Regiment, at Lichfield, in the second round.

The Depot also competed for the Army Hockey Cup last year, and reached the third round, being defeated by the 1st Batt. Durham Light Infantry, who eventually reached the semi-final.

Cricket, as usual, played a big part in the Depot last season. Some very good teams were met, and a fair amount of success was obtained. We played 18 matches, won 10, lost 6, and 2 were drawn.

The result of Depot XI *v.* Derby Friars' C.C. was:—

Depot C.C.		*Derby Friars' C.C.*	
Sergt. P. Bradley	14	R. Boden	11
Pte. J. King	19	J. Marston-Smedley	4
C.S.M. Howarth	8	J. C. Young	29
Capt. Nevitt	39	R. V. McVittie	1
Ex-C.Q.M.S. Howarth	18	J. Crommelin-Brown	43
Drummer Lingley	8	T. B. Blaxland	10
Mr. Daykin	2	B. O. Corbett	30
Capt. J. D'a Whicher	15	C. R .C. Moore	3
Sergt. Drury	3	C. W. Evans	11
Capt. M. H. Cooper	3	C. V. Rayner (not out)	23
Sergt. Slade (not out)	4		
Extras	6	Extras	6
Total	141	Total for 9 wkts.	171

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The result of Depot XI *v.* Col. Wise's XI was :—

Depot C.C.—1st Innings.

Sergt. Bradley	2
Sergt. Slade	0
C.S.M. Howarth	9
Ex-C.Q.M.S. Howarth	10
Capt. J. D'a Whicher	1
R.Q.M.S. Thompson	3
Sergt. Barton	0
R.Q.M.S. Cranage	8
Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C.	0
Sergt. Stoton	3
Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts	3
Sergt. Harber (not out)	0
Extras	7
Total	46

Depot C.C.—2nd Innings.

Sergt. Harber	8
Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts	1
Sergt. Stoton	0
Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C.	0
R.Q.M.S. Cranage	3
Sergt. Barton	0
R.Q.M.S. Thompson	0
Capt. J. D'a Whicher	5
Mr. Howarth (not out)	7
Extras	3
Total for 8 wkts.	27

Col. Wise's XI—1st Innings.

Col. Wise	27
C. Oxford	18
F. Hines (not out)	48
W. Freestone	5
G. Leedham	4
T. Mewis	4
W. Earp	7
F. Earp	5
S. Ridgeway	12
T. Freestone	0
Drummer Lingley	2
Durant	4
Extras	5
Total	138

In boxing the Recruits maintained the standard of previous years. We fought the Leicester Depot for a Silver Challenge Cup at Derby. The result was a draw—five wins each. It was decided that each Depot hold the cup for six months. At the end of the twelve months we went to Glen Parva Barracks and brought the cup back to Derby by eight wins to two.

The Educational Instructor at the Depot is a very busy officer. He is responsible for the training of the Recruits in Education. Regimental History is a big feature of the

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training. Most of the candidates are quite good on Regimental History. Occasionally one comes across one man who is rather inclined to mix up dates and events. I append one specimen exactly as written by the man :—

"Q. 4. At Kotah the second Battalion found a Ram and took it with them and called it there mascot and they marched 200 miles with the Ram. The Campaign was in Eastern Inda, whem Lt Con Popom went 50 yds under heavey rifle fire for a kettle of water and on his return back to his comrades the kettle was hit many times buy bullets and he was reward a V.C.

Q. 7. The 45th regiment served 7 years in the Peninsula. The first battle was Rolica in 1808, and the last battle was Toulouse in 1814.

Q. 3. 45th regiment had 21 day hard trenche fighting when they captured Badajoz and Lt. McPherson climb the keep and hoosted his red tunick in the place of the French Flag, and they captured Alma, Inkerman, Servasterpol.

Q. 2. Ava is in Portugal near the capital of Mandyley and it was in the Crimia War."

Doubtless the well-known Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion will be delighted to know he has been awarded a V.C.

During the year Capt. and Bt.-Major C. E. Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., has left us for the 1st Battalion, having completed his tour of duty as Adjutant, 3rd Battalion. He has been succeeded by Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts, of the 2nd Battalion, in a new appointment peculiar to Depots, as Acting Adjutant.

Early in the year R.S.M. W. Peterkin, M.C., left us for pension. He has been succeeded by R.Q.M.S. L. Parker as R.S.M.

In December, 1922, Capt. and Q.M. F. A. W. Coman, M.C., retired and was succeeded by Capt. F. W. Langley, H.P. List. This officer was well known by some of the old members of the Regiment, as he was O.R. Sergt. of the 2nd Batt. Warwick Regiment in Malta at the same time that the 2nd Battalion of the Regiment was stationed at Imtarfa Barracks.

In January, 1923, Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., relinquished command of the Depot, after a very successful three years' tour of duty, during which time the whole of the Depot had

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been reorganised under the N.C. Scheme for Depots. He was succeeded by Bt. Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O., an old officer of the Regiment, who was gazetted to the 2nd Battalion after the South African War. Col. Dumbell served during that campaign with the " Elswick By. R.F.A.," as a Bombardier, and joined the Regiment at Malta in 1901.

Owing to the shortage of Officers at the Depot, and the constant calls upon the few we had for various duties, it was found impossible to play the annual match, Officers *v.* Sergeants, this last season. However, to keep alive the social feeling, it was decided to play other games instead. Consequently the Officers challenged the Sergeants' Mess to bowls and billiards.

At Bowls on the Officers' Lawn the Sergeants did very well to beat the strong pairs that the Officers turned out on their own green. The following are the scores :—

R.S.M. Parker	15	Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C.	6
R.Q.M.S. Thompson		2nd Lieut. P. N. White	
R.S.M. Parker	15	Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts	3
R.Q.M.S. Thompson		Lieut. and Q.M. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M.	
R.Q.M.S. Cranage ..	15	Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts	13
S.M.Ck. Bradley		Lieut. and Q.M. C. A. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M. ..	
R.Q.M.S. Cranage ..	15	Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C.	5
S.M.Ck. Bradley		Lieut. P. N. White	

A Billiard Match was also played on the table in the Sergeants' Mess, and resulted as follows :—

Capt. F. W. Langley	60	R.Q.M.S. Cranage ..	100
Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C. .	62	C.S.M. Howarth....	100
Capt. J. D'a Whicher	94	R.S.M. Parker	100
Lieut. and Q.M. C. A. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M. ...	52	Sergt. Forresters ...	100
2nd Lieut. P. N. White.....	65	S.M.Ck. Bradley ..	100
Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts	100	O.R.Q.M.S. Thompson	86

The wives of the Depot threw out a challenge to a cricket match against the members of the Sergeants' Mess, which was

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duly accepted, and as the ladies very kindly entertained their opponents to tea, a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. The mere men after a titanic struggle managed to win by one run. It is hoped that this is not the last of these enjoyable functions we shall have. As will be seen by the scores, some of the ladies did exceptionally well, but I would point out that the ladies specially selected Lce.-Corpl. Peter Joyce to do umpire for their side.

The following are the scores :—

Ladies' XI.		*Unfortunates' XI.*	
Mrs. Thompson	2	Mr. Spinks	2
Mrs. Daykin	0	Sergt. Barton	1
Mrs. Cranage	12	R.Q.M.S. Thompson	5
Mrs. Barton	5	R.S.M. Parker	5
Mrs. Spinks	1	C.S.M. Howarth.....	12
Mrs. Stoton	2	Sergt. Bradley	15
Mrs. Parker	3	C.Q.M.S. Barber	4
Mrs. Hart	4	C.Q.M.S. Cranage (not out)	6
Mrs. Ridley	6	Sergt. Stoton	3
Mrs. Bradley	0	Sergt. Rose	1
Mrs. Barber (not out)....	5	Sergt. Grant	1
Extras	9	Extras	1
Total	50	Total	51

Captain and Q.M. F. W. Langley has taken over the amusement of the Junior Ranks in Barracks. Whist drives, smoking concerts and dances are arranged for them each month, and so far have been very successful, and much appreciated by the men.

The "Foresters Troupe" under the able direction of Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., have attained a very great measure of success during the past season, and are much appreciated by the residents in the village of Old Normanton, and the troops in general.

A Shooting Competition between members of the Sergeants' Mess for the "Meares Cup" was shot for on the T.F.A. Range, Derby, in September, 1923. The cup was presented to the Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Battalion, by Major J. N. Meares, an

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old officer of the Regiment, now retired, and was won by Sergt. W. H. Rose.

The conditions were :

7 rounds at 200 yards, lying, 1 sighter, Bisley target.
7 rounds at 200 yards, lying, 1 sighter, Bisley target.
10 rounds rapid, lying, 300 yards, time 35 secs.

Some good shooting was seen. I append the scores :—

	Ptce. 1.	Ptce. 2.	Ptce. 3.	Total.
Sergt. W. H .Rose . .	30	19	31	80
Sergt. R. Harber . . .	27	25	27	79
Lce.-Sergt. Chambers . .	24	22	31	77
R.Q.M.S. Cranage . .	30	24	21	75
Sergt. R. Slade . . .	23	20	28	71
R.S.M. Parker . . .	25	24	21	70
Sergt. Grant . . .	21	15	31	67
C.Q.M.S. W. Barber . .	27	22	16	65
Sergt. C. Forresters . .	24	20	26	70
Sergt. Waldron . . .	27	18	9	54
R.Q.M.S. Thompson . .	21	23	9	53
Sergt. Stoton . . .	20	16	14	50
Sergt. Bradley . . .	23	11	16	50
Sergt. Styring . . .	18	11	12	41

On the 27th October, 1923, a very interesting ceremony took place in Nottingham, when the 59th Regiment of Foot, "the old 2nd Nottinghamshire Regiment," who in 1881 became the 59th Foot, "the East Lancashire Regiment," placed in St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, their old Colours. A fair number of the city attended, our Regiment being represented by Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., and Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts.

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OFFICERS, 5TH BATTALION

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5TH BATTALION

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VII

5TH BATTALION NOTES

THE first item of importance was a Week-end Tactical Exercise at Buxton, the reason being to look over the ground that we were going into Camp on this year, but, alas! we had to leave Buxton at the eleventh hour and camp at Carburton, owing to the outbreak of small-pox in Derbyshire.

During the year recruiting has been steady, but next year we hope to come up to our establishment.

The Battalion, under the command of Lt.-Col. T. C. Newbold, D.S.O., T.D., marched into Camp at Carburton—21 Officers and 430 Other Ranks. It was unfortunate that 58 Other Ranks were prevented from attending owing to being in areas affected by the outbreak of small-pox.

The first week in Camp was devoted to platoon and company training. This training was made easy by the attendance of the Training Cadre from the Depot. The second week was given up to Battalion training. Two very pleasant days were spent in war against the 8th Battalion, in which the keenness shown by all ranks was exceptional.

The Battalion was inspected in full marching order by the Brigade Commander (Col. G. D. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O.), in which the turn-out was very creditable to all ranks.

The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command (Lt.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.), visited the Battalion, and watched the individual Companies at training. During his inspection a demonstration was given of the Platoon in the attack.

On the last day at camp there was a ceremonial parade for the whole Brigade. The Battalion was inspected by the Divisional Commander (Major-Gen. C. C. Van Straubenzee, C.B., C.M.G.) and afterwards marched past, the Divisional Commander taking the salute.

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A very useful and instructional Week-end Camp was held at the Depot during Whitsuntide, which was well attended by Officers and Section Leaders.

Letter C Company entered two Lewis Gun Teams for the Territorial Lewis Gun Trophy, which was fired for at Belper on 13th October, 1923, the firing on the part of both teams was excellent, and they should go far in the competition. The respective captains were Sergt. Jackson and Lce.-Corpl. Degge.

The Battalion, as usual, excelled itself once again in the sport at Camp by winning the Brigade Sports Cup, which was presented by the Brigade Commander at the conclusion of the programme.

The following were the successful competitors:—

½ *Mile:* Drummer Swales (H.Q.) 1st, Drummer Slater (H.Q.) 3rd.

Relay Race: Drummer Swales, Corpl. Hillyard, Lce.-Corpl. Summers and Pte. Eyre 2nd.

Tug-of-War: Letter B Company 1st (Sergt.-Inst. Wood, Sergt. Davis, Corpl. Brown, Lce.-Corpl. Meek, Lce.-Corpl. Fretwell, Lce.-Corpl. Hill and Pte. Beckworth).

Cross Country: Drummer Swales 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Savage 4th, Pte. Green 5th, and Drummer Slater 7th.

Battalion Sports were held prior to the Brigade and resulted as follows:—

100 *Yards:* Drummer Hill (H.Q.) 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Summers (D) 2nd.

½ *Mile:* Drummer Swales (H.Q.) 1st, Drummer Slater (H.Q.) 2nd.

1 *Mile Relay:* Drummer Slater (H.Q.), Corpl. Hillyard, Drummer Hill and Pte. Walker.

Tug-of-War: Letter B Company.

Football: Letter B Company.

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5TH BATTALION ATHLETIC TEAM

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VIII

6TH BATTALION NOTES

GREAT improvement has been made in the Battalion during the year 1923. The recruiting has not been brilliant but the discharges have been covered and we are now close to the completion of the Peace Establishment; now that the recruiting is for four years it enables the Permanent Staff Instructor to make good use of the time that the man is serving and the Permanent Staff can see something for the tedious work of licking the raw recruit into shape.

Considering the scattered area the sport and training is quite satisfactory.

The Annual Camp this year was held at Carburton in the Dukeries, near Worksop; the site of the land belongs to His Grace the Duke of Portland, and has proved an ideal training-ground. All ranks seemed perfectly satisfied and thoroughly enjoyed themselves for the fifteen days they were in Camp.

This year has been rather an extraordinary one during the training. Through the visit of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales to Welbeck Abbey, the Sherwood Foresters had to line the streets of Worksop; also volunteers had to be found for the unveiling of the Regimental Memorial at Crich. General Sir Horace L. Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the Camp and reviewed the Brigade, also distributed medals to N.C.O.'s and Men, so that a good amount of ceremonial has also been performed in addition to the Field Training.

The Rifle Shooting has not been exceptionally grand, but we have carried out our duty in entering all the T.A.R.A. contests, both at Bisley and at home, and it is hoped a great improvement will be made during the forthcoming year. The Battalion held a rifle meeting on the 7th October, 1923, at Combs Rifle Range, which is on the borders of

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Cheshire, and a considerable distance from the Headquarters; the attendance was over 150 members.

Prizes were given at the Annual Camp by Capt. G. Edmunds, late of the Sherwood Foresters, and Brig.-Gen. G. M. Jackson, V.D. The former was for the best turned-out man in Camp not above the rank of Lance-Corporal: this was won by Pte. Hamilton, C Company. The latter was for the best turned-out man in Camp with less than three years' service in any branch of the service: this was won by Pte. Fearne, B Company.

As already stated above, the Battalion is so scattered it is found necessary to obtain notes from the various outlying stations:—

Letter A Company stationed at Chesterfield with an out-station at Clay Cross.

This Company, although there have been many changes, has upheld its state of efficiency. A.R.S.M. King has the instruction of the Company, having joined the Permanent Staff in the month of July last in relief of C.S.M. Strading, who, having completed his term of engagement with the Territorial Army, returned to the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters for duty. The Company is very strong owing to the fact that the majority of the H.Q. Wing are attached, consisting of the Band, Bandmaster W. McFarlane; the Drums, Sergt.-Drummer J. Cox (this N.C.O. held a similar position in the Regular Battalions for some considerable time before discharge to pension); Machine Gunners, W. Reece: whilst of others there are R.Q.M.S. M. Unwin, M.M., Sergt.-Ck. Davies, T.S. Osborne and Sergt. L. Arthurs (who was for some time a C.S.M. in one of the Regular Battalions), Lce.-Sergt. Britchfield, O.R.S.

Capt. H. H. Jackson, M.C., is in command of the Company and continues to introduce new schemes to keep interest in the work and good training results.

Lce.-Corpl. Bramhall is the shining light of this Company regarding sports, and he took a good many of the prizes both at the Battalion and Brigade Sports.

The Company held a Prize Shoot at Dore and Totley Rifle Range on the 23.9.23, and over 100 members were present. The prizes are mostly given by the tradesmen of the town—

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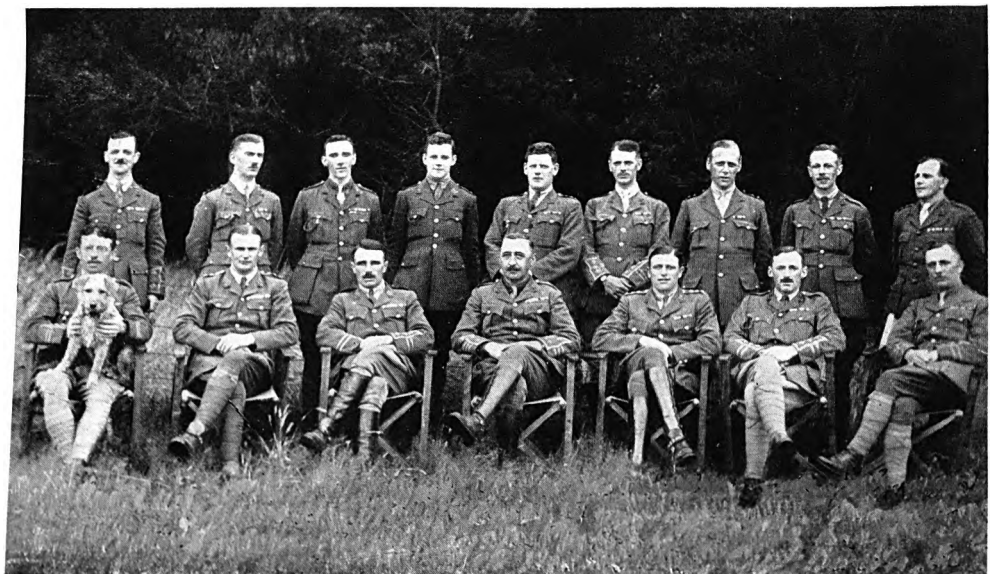

6TH BATTALION
GROUP OF OFFICERS, CAMP, 1922

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hams, clothing, boots, and other useful articles. The principal prizes were won by the following :—

	Points.	Possible Points.
White Memorial Shield : Corpl. Upton	60	70
Lomar Cup : Pte. Grindley . . .	33	35
Derbyshire Times' Cup : Sergt. W. Davies	34	35
Machine Gun Cup : Sergt. W. Reece .	58	70
500 *Yards Cup :* Sergt. W. Reece .	33	35
Recruits' Cup : Pte. Bestwick . .	45	70
Peter Warner's Cup : This Cup is for the best all-round man of the Company and will be notified at the Annual Dinner.		
Clay Cross Cup : Corpl. Holmes . .	54	70

The Company Ball was held on Shrove Tuesday, 8th February, 1923, as usual, but owing to the wet evening a small loss resulted ; otherwise it was voted a success.

The Band have run several dances, thus keeping to the forefront amongst the inhabitants of the town.

This Company is showing a great interest in shooting, and the miniature range is being used weekly throughout the winter months for small competitions. Medals and Spoons, also a handicap shoot is contemplated, provided that the interest can be maintained.

Taking everything into consideration the Company are showing more enterprise, more keenness, and gradually coming back to the same old ways.

Letter B Company : Headquarters, Chapel-en-le-Frith, with out-stations at Buxton, Whaley Bridge and New Mills. This is the Peak Company.

The remarkably high order of the *esprit de corps* which exists amongst the men of the Outpost Company is a matter of no small amount of wonder, until one comes to remember that, in their case at any rate, peace-time Territorialing at all times, and of necessity, approximates far more nearly to those "difficulties and privations inseparable from Military Service" than a lot of the town-dwellers can be said to do.

The organising of entertainments and social gatherings, a

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comparatively simple matter for the Town Councillor with a commodious and central " Drill Hall " ready to his hand, is a matter requiring no small amount of patience and resource in a district where long journeys by night, between hamlets (quite likely to be snow-bound on the date fixed upon for your gaff) miles from your hired hall, have to be taken into account. The long tramp which your Peakite cheerfully undertakes in order to put in a drill after a day's rock-tearing, can hardly be expected of his lady friend in the depth of winter.

But difficulties are made to be overcome, and the unselfish devotion with which the estimable C.S.M. Mycock, M.S.M., applies himself to his many self-imposed tasks during the winter is deserving of praise every bit as high as that which has already been accorded to his far more celebrated confrère of another, more cushily situated, company of this country battalion of ours. On the 25th January, 1923, was held the 25th Military Ball in the Drill Hall at Whaley Bridge. The last time this old-established function had taken place was on the 26th January, 1914, for the 24th time without a break. Mrs. Hall, wife of Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D., presented the Company trophies as follows:—

Volunteer Cup : No. 6 (Buxton) Platoon.
Turner Cup : No. 1 Section (Chapel-en-le-Frith).
Mabbot Cup : No. 4 Section (Peak Dale).
Heathcote Shield : No. 1 Section (Chapel-en-le-Frith).
Old M Company Cup : Lce.-Corpl. G. W. Hunter (Buxton Platoon).
Langford Cup : Pte. F. Arnfield (New Mills Platoon).

A similar revival took place at Buxton Town Hall on Wednesday, 20th December, 1922, but in this case the attendance was greatly affected by the impassable state of the roads that night.

The Chapel-en-le-Frith Platoon Club gave informal dances once a month throughout the winter, all exceedingly well attended.

Their Club Rules finally drawn up to the satisfaction of all concerned, New Mills may look forward to using, this winter, the Club Hut (complete with billiard table) which has been a great treat in store during the last four years.

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6TH BATTALION

"A" COMPANY, CARBURTON, 1923

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A gratifying display of physical endurance was made during Camp by a goodly number of stalwarts who competed in Battalion and Brigade Sports after finishing the morning's manœuvre training with the Company, and successfully too.

It has now been made possible to concentrate the Company during the Company training period prior to Camp, and it has been found beneficial.

Letter C Company Headquarters, Bakewell, with out-stations at Matlock, Wirksworth and Ashbourne.

The musketry of this Company has greatly improved and the Company average is as follows: Rifle Sections 83·1, Lewis Gun Sections 43·9, out of 115 and 75 respectively.

Bakewell. The Annual Dinner at this place was held on the 14th December, 1922. Chair was taken by Capt. E. M. Brooke-Taylor, M.C., Officer Commanding the Company, supported by Major H. C. Brooke-Taylor. An excellent menu and concert programme was provided. During the interval Major Cogan presented the prizes given by the Local Tradesmen to the Annual Rifle Competition Shoot.

Matlock. The Annual Dinner took place at Matlock on 15th December, 1922. Chair was taken by Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D., commanding the Battalion, supported by Capt. E. M. Brooke-Taylor, M.C., and Lieut. J. Watts Potter, D.S.O. Lt.-Col. E. Hall presented the prizes given by the Local Tradesmen to the winners at the Platoon Rifle Competition.

Wirksworth. The Annual Dinner at Wirksworth, chair being taken by C.Q.M.S. Porter, supported by Capt. J. D. B. Symonds. During the evening the prize-winners at the Platoon Rifle Competition were presented with their prizes by Capt. E. M. Brooke-Taylor, M.C.

Ashbourne. The Annual Dinner was held on 13th December, 1922. Chair was occupied by Capt. R. H. Bond, who was supported by the Marquis of Hartington, M.B.E., the Rev. W. Allis-Smith, Rev. R. Wheen, Rev. A. G. Kirby, Col.-Com. G. D. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., Capt. E. M. Brooke-Taylor, M.C., Lieut. L. Parkinson (Officer commanding the Platoon), Capt. G. Desborough, Capt. H. Blackwall, Lieuts. R. S. Bury, O. N. Barber, H. A. Prince, S. H. Bagshaw,

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W. Coulson, G. F. H. Kemp. Capt. J. R. Mellor occupied the vice-chair.

The Marquis of Hartington presented the prizes to the winners as under :—

Licensed Victuallers' Challenge Cup : Sergt. R. C. Purdy.
Jelf Recruits' Cup : Pte. O. Dunn.
Turnbull Efficiency Cup : Sergt. R. C. Purdy.
F.M.O. Cup : Lce.-Corpl. F. Hellaby.
Capt. J. R. Mellor's Gold Medal : Sergt. R. C. Purdy.
Mr. R. W. Gratton's Silver Medal : Sergt. R. C. Purdy.
Capt. E. Lee's Silver Medal : Pte. O. Dunn.
Okeover Silver Bugle (dated 1860) : Pte. R. Wibberley.
Section Cup (No. 16 Section) : Lce.-Corpl. E. R. Grant.

Many interesting speeches were made after the dinner. During an interval the two minutes' silence was observed in memory of their fallen comrades and the "Last Post" and "Réveillé" was sounded by Pte. R. Wibberley.

The Annual Soirée was held on 4th April, 1923. About 160 assembled for the dance, and the arrangements were admirably carried out by C.S.M. G. Neynoe, the Permanent Staff Instructor, and Sergt. Purdy, who were efficient M.C.'s. The novelties introduced included balloons, fans, feathers, streamers and hats, and these caused immense fun.

The Annual Marching Order Parade was held on the 24th July, 1923, Capt. R. H. Bond was the Inspecting Officer and Pte. J. Fogg was decided to be the smartest turned-out man on parade and was awarded the Cup given by Capt. F. E. F. Wright.

The Company Annual Ball was held at Bakewell Town Hall on the 8th February, 1923, and proved a great success. The rooms were tastefully decorated.

The Club Rooms have proved a great boon to the members of the Company and keep the men together during the winter months.

Letter D Company Headquarters, Staverley, with out-stations at Bolsover, Eckington, and Creswell.

The Company strength has greatly increased, and it is hoped to get the Company up to establishment at an early date.

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6TH BATTALION

Pte. O. DUNN, Lce.-Sgt. R. B. WIBBERLEY, Lce.-Sgt. F. HELLABY, Sgt. R. C. PURDY,
Lieut. L. PARKINSON, C.S.M. G. NEYNOE

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2nd Lieut. C. L. Creswick has been commissioned and has joined this Company for duty. C.S.M. Greatorex is still the C.S.M. of the Company, and C.Q.M.S. J. S. Spencer has just been promoted to that rank as Company Accountant. This N.C.O. is the son of Colour-Sergeant-Instructor J. Spencer, a one-time Instructor to the Company.

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IX

7TH BATTALION NOTES

THE year 1923 opened sadly for the Battalion by the death of the ex-Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. A. W. Brewill, D.S.O., V.D., T.D., after a long illness. He had a long and distinguished career, and after his retirement had intended to try and link up the old Robin Hoods with those serving; his forty-three years' service rendered this work peculiarly fitting to him, and it is a great loss to the Battalion that it did not get going. He was buried at Edwalton Church with Military Honours, and the large assembly of all ranks, from all parts, testified not only to the personal regard in which he was held, but also to the way in which the War united the ranks of the Sherwood Foresters and did away with the purely local spirit.

Boxing in Nottingham went strong in the early part of the year, finishing with the Territorial Army Championship Meeting, a great success and triumph for the North Midland Division, who won the Cup; the writer would like to convey to our neighbours, the 8th Battalion, congratulations from the 7th, on their extraordinary sporting success in the Competition.

Training proceeded on normal grounds and was as progressive as is possible with a Unit quartered in a large town, but, thanks to the kindness of two large landowners, Earl Manvers and Lord Middleton, suitable ground outside was on several occasions placed at our disposal and was very useful.

Camp this year was held at Carburton, on the estate of our Hon. Colonel, the Duke of Portland, K.G., T.D., and was a great success.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales visited Nottingham during the first week, and the Battalion had the privilege of finding two Guards of Honour, under Capts. L. C. Brewill and A. A. Walton,

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and lining the streets. His visit was very popular and the welcome given extraordinarily hearty.

The other great event was the unveiling of the Crich Memorial, written of elsewhere; like all present, the detachment of Robin Hoods were very much impressed with the grandeur of the Ceremony and came away filled with pride in the glory of their Regiment, the Sherwood Foresters.

This year has marked another step forward in getting back to pre-war conditions, as the first Rifle Meeting since the War was held and a successful start made. Shooting included a Marching Competition, and our thanks are due to the Officers of the Depot for judging it. It is hoped another year that the Programme may be elaborated and more interest in shooting taken.

Capt. E. Skinner, probably the best Q.M. a Territorial Battalion ever had, finished his service this spring, to the great regret of all ranks; we wish him every success in his retirement, and are glad that he is keeping up his associations with the Battalion by acting as Financial Secretary. We welcome his successor, Capt. McGevor, M.B.E., also from the Foresters, most heartily.

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X

8TH BATTALION NOTES

WE think we may justly say that as a result of the steady progress made since its reconstruction in 1920 the Battalion had by the end of 1922 become firmly established upon the post-war basis. Early in the year the War Office drew up a revised establishment of the Army, including Territorials, mainly owing to the pressing need for economy in the Nation's expenditure, and the new regulations came into force, by the irony of fate, on April 1st. These regulations lay down the Peace Establishment of a Battalion as 21 Officers, in addition to the Adjutant and Medical Officer, and 637 Other Ranks. The four Companies are allowed 3 Officers and 120 Other Ranks each, two of the Platoons in each Company being commanded by Sergeants, and sundry Details, including the Machine Gun Platoon, Transport and Signal Sections, Band, Drums, and various employed men, are grouped together as " Headquarter Wing " with a total of 157. At the same time the conditions of service were modified, and, needless to say, bounties were considerably reduced for all new recruits and for men re-engaging. It was feared that these changes might possibly cause some falling-off in recruiting, but so far results show that such fears were ill-founded, and up to the present time there appears to be no dearth of suitable young men willing to come forward and offer themselves for training. In fact whilst our strength in Other Ranks at the beginning of the year was 563 we actually went up in June to 613. Discharges after Camp automatically brought down our numbers, and we ended the year with 569.

In Officers we were considerably in excess of the new establishment, and a thinning-out was necessary. During the process we lost, with much regret, several old friends of the Battalion, all experienced war veterans. Major R. J. Wordsworth, D.S.O., Capt. J. K. Lane, Capt. A. G. T. Lomer, M.C.,

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and Lieuts. C. Cursham and C. B. Webster went on the Reserve of Officers during April and May, and Lieut. W. Archer, M.C., in September. Lieuts. G. Wright and E. A. Huskinson, M.C., also resigned their commissions, and, to our great grief, the latter, alas! died early in 1923 after a sudden and brief illness. Ernest Huskinson was one of the most lovable men it has been our fortune to meet. We remember well his cheery smile in difficult times in France, his constant desire to help his friends in any way possible even under most trying conditions, his innate sincerity and his never-failing desire and effort always to do his duty however difficult that might be. When the Territorial Army was reconstructed, after the War, he was one of the first to come forward to help, and we shall always remember with feelings of the greatest affection Ernest and his "Chickens," as we knew the small band of men he got together in his village of Epperstone. The esteem in which he was held there was manifested by the very large numbers who attended his funeral and the loving tokens of sympathy which were sent.

On the retirement of Capt. Lomer the command of C Company passed, in April, to Capt. H. A. F. Crewdson, who was promoted to that rank during the previous month, and Lieut. T. A. Ford, promoted Captain in July, took over B Company from Capt. Lane in May. 2nd Lieut. G. Hales was promoted Lieut. in September and 2nd Lieut. E. C. Spencer in October. A Company was joined in January by 2nd Lieut. B. H. Dowson, who had served in the Uppingham O.T.C., and in July 2nd Lieut. J. D. Renwick, son of our Quartermaster, joined the Battalion. He had previously been a Flying Officer Cadet in the Royal Air Force and was given command of the Machine Gun Platoon, consisting of 21 men in two sections, one each at Newark and Arnold.

C.S.M. Chappell of B Company resigned on the termination of his engagement, in May, and was succeeded by Sergt. A. J. Bayliss. Sergt. T. W. Brittle, whose appointment on the Permanent Staff had previously terminated on the completion of his twenty-one years' service, rejoined the Battalion and took over the duties of Sergt.-Drummer from Sergt.-Drummer G. W. Clewes when the latter left in May. The energy and pains taken by Sergt.-Drummer Brittle to train the Drum and

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Fife Band are beyond all praise and our best thanks are due to him for bringing them up to their present pitch of excellence. In connection with the musical part of the Battalion we should like to mention an interesting acquisition to the Band during the year in the shape of a Baton nearly 2000 years old. The oak from which it was made came from the old Roman bridge over the Trent close to Newark. We owe to the generosity of a local resident this novel and useful addition to our Band instruments.

Amongst the changes which took place in the Permanent Staff we were sorry to lose C.S.M. P. Brailsford from Mansfield, who was discharged on the termination of his twenty-one years' service. He was succeeded by C.Q.M.S. C. George, who, unfortunately, was only allowed to stay until November, as owing to the reduction in rank establishment this post had to be filled by a lower rank and Sergt. J. Smith was appointed. C.Q.M.S. C. George on relief went to the 1st Battalion, as did also C.Q.M.S. G. W. Richards, M.M., who left Sutton-in-Ashfield in June on a reduction of the establishment of Permanent Staff Instructors.

The following N.C.O.'s and men qualified during the year for the Territorial Efficiency Medal: A Company—Sergt. J. W. Kirk; B Company—Sergt. H. Abbott, Pte. J. F. Sharpe and Pte. R. Ward; C Company—Corpl. G. Morrell, Corpl. H. Simpson, Lce.-Corpl. W. Porter, Pte. H. Corless and Pte. G. E. Harrison; D Company—Sergt. A. T. Taylor, Corpl. G. Moore and Corpl. W. H. Ellis.

The preliminary part of the year's training included various courses of instruction which were held during the early part of the year and proved of the greatest value. Those for Company Commanders held at Divisional Headquarters at Derby provided many useful ideas of training and instruction in modern warfare, whilst the Adjutant held classes at Newark for Platoon Commanders, Company Sergeant-Majors, Platoon Sergeants and the Permanent Staff, and two excellent courses for Section Commanders and selected privates were held at the Sherwood Foresters' Depot at Derby.

General training during the year showed real and steady progress. Major-Gen. Hoskins, the Divisional Commander, who had gone very thoroughly into the matter, made it quite

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clear in his address to Officers at the Derby courses that, in his opinion, the greater part of the time allotted to Territorial training must be spent in manœuvre and tactics and in teaching the young N.C.O.'s how to lead and command their men in battle. Unquestionably this is the most important part of all training, and takes the longest time to carry out. In order to facilitate this kind of training arrangements were made for chars-à-bancs to be hired whenever possible on Saturdays and Sundays, on a more extensive scale than in 1921, for concentrating companies or platoons and taking them to places suitable for manœuvre and tactical training. It was hoped that by this means continuous periods of two or three hours might be so spent from time to time, thereby ensuring the utmost benefit from the training.

Col. Abel Smith at the beginning of the year laid down a scheme which by aiming at an early finish to recruiting—May 1st being the date mentioned—would enable training to be carried out on progressive lines for three months before proceeding to Camp. It was expected that by that time all N.C.O.'s and men would know their drill and be able to handle their arms, and that sections and platoons would have carried out a few of the elementary tactical exercises connected with the attack. Nothing more was attempted. In the main these ideas were carried out, and by the time we got to Camp most if not all platoons were capable of carrying out a simple attack.

Partly it was said to save expense in taking the troops long journeys, and partly on account of the excellent ground for training there, it was arranged that the whole of the 46th Division should concentrate for Annual Training in the midst of the delightful "Dukeries," the ground for camps and training being kindly placed at the disposal of the Division by the Dukes of Portland and Newcastle and by Sir John Robinson. The Sherwood Foresters Brigade Group were allotted a splendid site near Welbeck Abbey, and the various Units of the Group concentrated there on Sunday, July 30th.

Battalion Headquarters, A and B Companies and 3 Platoons of C Company, proceeded by train to Whitwell Station, from whence the Camp was but a short march. The Edwinstowe Platoon of C Company came by char-à-banc, and D Company,

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having brought the Retford Platoon by train to Worksop, marched from there to the accompaniment of the Band of the Worksop Branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, much to the interest and amusement of those who had already arrived in Camp. All were comfortably settled in their lines in time for dinners. Our numbers in Camp averaged 553 Other Ranks during the fortnight.

The first week was spent mainly in training Platoons in attack practice. As must almost always be the case, it took a few days after arriving at Camp to get the backward Platoons and Sections sufficiently trained to take part in the more-advanced forms of Company and Battalion work. Company Commanders hardly know all their Section Commanders before they get to Camp. They certainly do not know their capabilities. They can only judge these when they have had a chance for a few days of watching them and their Platoon Commanders at work.

Some time was also spent during the first few days in watching "Demonstrations" by Cadre troops from the Foresters Depot at Derby. The principal items shown were Lewis Gun Section Battle Drill, a Platoon in attack, and Platoon and Section battle formations. They were so excellently carried out that we hesitate to criticise; but we feel sure we may be permitted to say that we thought some of their devices adopted in the tactical exercises, whilst perhaps ideal in theory, would be difficult if not impossible to carry out in actual warfare. Nevertheless, as a means of rapidly giving recruits and others some idea of what is aimed at in Tactical training the Cadre Platoon was most successful and our best thanks are due to them for their splendid work.

A famous Training Circular issued by General Maxse, entitled "The Empty Box," was a source of much interest and became quite a byword during the whole of Camp. This circular does not purport to describe a conjurer's sleight-of-hand trick, but merely emphasizes the importance of the Section organisation. Its opening paragraph contains the key: "The Unit upon which infantry organisation is built is the Section." Sections which are weak, or perhaps do not exist at all during peace times, are referred to as "Empty Boxes," to be filled one day, if required, on mobilisation,

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8TH BATTALION
OFFICERS, CAMP, WELBECK, 1922

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by reserves or recruits. On all parades Sections having no men present—" Empty Boxes "—were represented by flags. Gen. Maxse's circular caused a certain amount of amusement, but possibly by the same token " The Empty Box " will have made a more lasting impression than might have been the case if the idea had been put forward in some more academical form.

On Saturday, August 5th, the Battalion Sports were held, but, unfortunately, for some reason they attracted little interest. On the afternoon of the following day the Battalion had a large " Party " when the relations and friends of the men of the Battalion were entertained to tea. It was a delightful afternoon, and from all parts of the country people came in buses or chars-à-bancs, something like 1200 sitting down to an excellent tea prepared by the ever-willing Quartermaster and his band of helpers, to all of whom we offer our very best thanks.

August Bank Holiday, 1922, will not soon be forgotten! What a deluge! May it be many a long day before we have to face such a downpour again, either under canvas or elsewhere! It began just before midnight on Sunday with a few spots, but quickly developed into a perfect torrent, and it rained without ceasing until late in the afternoon of Monday, during which time not less than 5 ins. of rain was officially registered by rain-gauges in the neighbourhood. Fortunately the tents and marquees withstood the deluge nobly, and by digging small trenches round them most of the men were able to drain away the water from their tents and so prevent them from being flooded. Once outside one's tent one got drenched through in a very few minutes, the rain was so heavy and intense. On the whole, however, few people felt any ill effects, but the saturated state of the ground and the consequent discomfort rather naturally tended to damp our ardour for the rest of Camp. During Monday afternoon we did our best to entertain the men, and at the same time do a little tactical training by extemporising sand tables in the mess tents. The splendid sand table some of us had already seen at Normanton Barracks had proved to us the immense value of such models of tracts of country for teaching tactical exercises, and several excellent attempts at similar tables had been made by the various

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Companies at their own drill halls. These, of course, were of a semi-permanent nature. Now, however, we had only a few minutes to make up anything of the kind, but it was found to be a comparatively simple matter. A blanket spread unevenly on a table does perfectly well to represent a piece of country. A few pieces of string make very good roads. Blades of grass can be laid for fences and small bunches of grass make admirable woods. Other features may be added just as easily according to taste. With the help of a few matches to represent troops a complete scheme of considerable magnitude, if desired, may be carried out on such a " Sand Table."

The outdoor Tactical Training during the second week consisted of further practice in the attack, during part of which General Maxse came round and was apparently satisfied with what he saw, and a small field-day with the 6th Battalion in Clumber Park, when we carried out a Battalion attack. Our objective lay some distance beyond that of the 6th Battalion, and it was, perhaps, rather by good luck than by good field work that we got there. More than one war-worn officer read his map incorrectly on this occasion, though there were certainly extenuating circumstances !

On August 10th the Brigade Sports were held on the Cricket Ground in front of Welbeck Abbey. For some reason they were hardly as popular as we should have expected, but many of the events were keenly contested and the afternoon was quite enjoyable. The presence of the Troops no doubt helped to swell the takings of the Fête which was being held at the same time. This concluded as soon as darkness fell with a well-carried-out Torchlight Tattoo by the Massed Bands and Drums of the Brigade, under the direction of Major Hudson, V.C., who was acting as Brigade-Major, and Major A. C. Clarke.

On the following day the Brigade Commander held a " Full Marching Order " Inspection in Camp, when he tested very thoroughly the equipment and organisation of the Battalion, with which he expressed his satisfaction. The final parade was the usual Brigade Ceremonial, which was held on the Welbeck Cricket Ground on the morning of August 12th, when the Brigade Group marched past the Divisional Commander, Major-Gen. Sir A. R. Hoskins. We believe that we made a

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good display, and that our turn-out pleased not only the General but also the many friends of the Battalion who had gathered to watch the parade. After the usual ceremonial we marched past in fours, and by that time the rain which had been threatening for some time began to fall steadily, and soon after we got back to Camp it came on heavily and continued for the rest of the afternoon. It was a great honour and pleasure for us to have the Duchess of Portland amongst our guests at the Officers' Mess for luncheon on that day. Unfortunately the afternoon's entertainment resolved itself into watching the steady downpour of rain, and later in helping to drag motor-cars out of the mud into which they had steadily sunk. Camp was struck on the following morning and we dispersed to our homes once more. We cannot leave Camp without expressing our very great appreciation of the kindness of the Duke and Duchess of Portland, and of Mr. Warner Turner, for the hospitality extended to us during our stay and for their very great help in the arrangements for the Camp.

Little work had to be done after Camp except the completion of the Annual Musketry Course. Early in the year the War Office brought out a slightly modified course with a view to enabling firing to be carried out more expeditiously. Qualifying marks were certainly not more difficult to obtain under the new regulations than formerly. The Course is now the same for trained men as for recruits, but the former fire most of the practices with fixed bayonets. A short course with the Lewis Gun was also fired by all trained Lewis Gunners. There was little difference in the Musketry averages of the four Companies, but D Company were slightly ahead and won the Company Cup with an average of 73·4 for 141 trained men and 69·3 for 17 recruits. This Company won 7 out of the 8 cups given for musketry in the Standard Tests for shooting by Units or Individuals, the Cup for the best Lewis Gun Section being won by C Company.

Thanks once more to the untiring efforts of Capt. Ramsden, the Adjutant, a very successful Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the Trent Range on September 30th, when prizes in seven competitions, including one for Vickers' Gun Sections, were competed for. There was a good entry, and the shooting

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showed considerable improvement on that of the previous year, especially in the case of the Lewis Gun Sections. The prizes were fairly evenly distributed throughout the Battalion. That for the best individual score was won by C.S.M. Bayliss.

Turning to the less serious side of the year's doings, it is a pleasure to record the splendid achievements of the Battalion in the way of boxing, in which we did magnificently. Our own Tournament was held at the Worksop Drill Hall on December 9th, when a very good show was put up and several contests were arranged, in which we had the assistance of representatives from the Royal Air Force. All Companies were well represented and the boxing was greatly enjoyed by a good crowd of spectators. We sent an excellent entry to the Brigade Boxing Championship held early in the New Year at Nottingham, when our representatives won no fewer than six out of the seven weight competitions. At the Divisional Competition the Battalion won five events, and at the Territorial Army Boxing Championship, held at Nottingham in March, Corpl. C. E. Bryan, C Company, was the winner of the Catch-weights, and Ptes. F. Rodway, C Company. and A. Pressley, D Company, were the runners-up in the Welter-weights and Feather-weights respectively. On the same occasion the 46th Division was proud to win Lord Scarbrough's Cup for the Divisional Team scoring the most points. There were ten Divisions competing, and out of the winning team of eight we found no fewer than five, all of whom scored points towards winning the cup.

In the preliminary stages of the Territorial Army Football Championship the Battalion Team under C.S.M. T. Powell beat the 5th Sherwood Foresters at Ilkeston by 5 goals to 2, but lost to the 4th Lincolns at Newark in the second round by 1 goal to nil.

We cannot conclude this review of the Battalion's doings for 1922 without mentioning the very pleasing service which was held at Newark Parish Church, on Sunday, October 29th, to commemorate the dedication and unveiling of the St. George's Chapel. We believe that this is to become an annual institution. Lord Manvers met the Officers of the Battalion at the Town Hall before proceeding to the church.

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The sermon was preached by Padre Hales. Thanks to the magnificent efforts of Col. C. J. Huskinson, the chapel is now finished, and we venture to think it is one of the best and most lasting of the many memorials which have been erected in this country, and we desire to place on record our very grateful thanks to all those who have so kindly helped in various ways to bring about the completion of this beautiful chapel.

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XI

THE FREEDOM OF DERBY

The Duke of Devonshire, Earl Haig and Mrs. Rivers Honoured

THE 24th March, 1923, will always be a memorable and outstanding day in the long history of Derby. The town, which has shown dignified restraint in creating honorary freemen, conferred the honour last Saturday afternoon on the Duke of Devonshire, Colonial Secretary, former Governor-General of Canada, and Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire; on Field-Marshal Earl Haig, famous throughout the world; and on Mrs. Rivers, mother of the late Pte. Jacob Rivers, the only Derby man to win the V.C. in the Great War. In thus honouring Mrs. Rivers, said the Mayor, Derby was honouring all mothers who gave their sons to the country's service.

From the *Derbyshire Advertiser*, 30th March, 1923:—

The event in itself was a lesson in true democracy, marking, as it did, appreciation of services rendered to the town and the country by representatives of aristocracy and the people. By common consent pride of place among the three recipients was given to Mrs. Rivers, who represented not only her own gallant son who lost his life in the winning of the V.C., but every man of Derby who fell in the war and also those who have come back handicapped and suffering.

The certificates of freedom, presented by the Mayor (Coun. O. Ling), in the presence of a representative assembly of townspeople in the Drill Hall, set forth respectively that—

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., His Majesty's Lieutenant for the county of Derby, Lord High Steward of the borough, was admitted an honorary

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freeman " in appreciation of his eminent public services, particularly as Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada."

Field-Marshal Earl Haig of Bemersyde, K.T., G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., was admitted " in appreciation of the distinguished services rendered by him to the Empire in the Great War " ; and

Mrs. Adeline Rivers, of Derby, mother of the late Pte. Jacob Rivers, V.C., was admitted " as a tribute of honour to the men of Derby who served their country in the Great War."

As a concession to financial exigencies, and in accordance with the desire of the three new freemen, the customary ornate caskets, of gold, silver, or Crown Derby china, were dispensed with, and the vellum certificates, signed by the Mayor and the Town Clerk (Mr. G. Trevelyan Lee), were encased in purple leather.

The story of the circumstances under which Private Jacob Rivers qualified for the V.C. is particularly interesting. Whilst on a bombing expedition in the Neuve Chapelle region in March, 1915, he crept to within a few yards of a mass of the enemy and hurled bombs at them, compelling them to retire. A second time the same day he performed a similar feat, to the like discomfiture of the enemy, but on this occasion he was killed.

The Duke of Devonshire, accompanied by the Duchess, and Earl Haig, attended by Col. Crossfield as his A.D.C., arrived at the L.M. and S. Station, Derby, at 12.50 p.m. They were met at the station by the Mayor of Derby (Coun. O. Ling), Brig.-Gen. Walthall (representing the Imperial Veterans), Col. Chandos Pole (representing the Grenadier Guards' Old Comrades' Association), and Col. T. C. Newbold (representing the British Legion). The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and Earl Haig lunched at the County Club in the Wardwick. Mrs. Rivers lunched with the Mayoress at the St. James' Hotel, St. James' Street. Afterwards they proceeded on foot to the Drill Hall, where a large crowd had assembled. Outside the Newland Street entrance a guard of honour, furnished by the 5th Battalion Sherwood Foresters, was drawn up under the command of Capt. L. Finch. Lieut. Greenfield was also in attendance. The inspection of the guard gave the assembled people a good opportunity of seeing something of the distinguished visitors.

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The interior of the Drill Hall presented a bright appearance, having been tastefully decorated with flags and streamers, and the building was filled to capacity with interested and enthusiastic Derbeians. A short procession was formed, and headed by the Sergeant-at-Mace and other bearers of municipal insignia. Then came the Town Clerk and the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. W. R. H. Whiston), the Recorder (Mr. T. Hollis Walker, K.C.), the Duke of Devonshire and the Mayoress, Earl Haig and the Duchess of Devonshire, and the Mayor and Mrs. Rivers. The last named, quietly dressed entirely in black, and wearing the V.C., was placed immediately on the Mayor's right, with the Duke next to her, Earl Haig and the Duchess being seated to his Worship's left. Representatives of the Corporation, the magisterial bench, and the Board of Guardians also had seats on the platform, together with Mr. Charles Roberts, M.P., His Honour Judge H. Newell, and Mr. N. J. Hughes-Hallett (Clerk to the County Council). The absence of a notable figure in all town affairs, that of Lord Roe, who himself received the honorary freedom on the attainment of his municipal jubilee in 1909, was at once noted. Indisposition, which all deplored, was the cause.

The appearance of the recipients was greeted with much applause by the large crowd assembled, but for Mrs. Rivers was reserved the warmest welcome. As the chief actors in the ceremony rose to receive their certificates, the assembled people again seized the opportunity of signifying their approval of the proceedings. Earl Haig was greeted with shouts of " Bravo," whilst Mrs. Rivers was accorded a stirring reception, and the Duke of Devonshire, in the course of the Mayor's address to him, had frequently to acknowledge outbursts of enthusiasm.

The Mayor expressed regret that their " Grand Old Freeman," Lord Roe, was unable to attend, and in his absence asked Ald. Dr. Laurie, as the senior member of the Reception Committee, to welcome their distinguished visitors on behalf of the Town Council.

Ald. Dr. Laurie said it would have been more fitting for Lord Roe to have extended the welcome as he was the senior member of the Council, having served continuously for something like sixty-five years. He went on to speak of the Duke

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of Devonshire's close identity with all the interests both of the town and county, and of His Grace's tremendous services to the State, especially as Governor-General of Canada. While he was sure the nation at large was grateful to the Duke for his great services in Canada, Derbyshire folk were proud of his achievements, and claimed him as their own. Therefore they felt that they could not do less than ask His Grace to accept the highest honour they could confer upon him—that was the Freedom of the Borough.

Turning to Earl Haig, Ald. Laurie expressed the delight of the citizens of Derby at seeing him present that afternoon, and to welcome him to their good old borough. We, as a nation and as individuals, were grateful to Earl Haig for the immense services rendered by him to the Empire.

During those fateful years of the war they looked to him with confidence and thanks. They felt that his skilful leadership, his unbounded optimism, and the enthusiasm with which he inspired his troops would, no matter how dark and dreary the days seemed at times, lead them to victory. They felt now that it was most fitting the town which was so closely associated with the Sherwood Foresters, a regiment second to none in the Army, should invite him there to confer upon him the greatest honour they could.

To Mrs. Rivers, Ald. Laurie said he had had a peculiar satisfaction in welcoming her that afternoon. She was present to represent that brave son of hers, that gallant boy who lost his life, who earned the greatest distinction the Army could give. But she was there not only to represent him, but to represent all the gallant boys of our town and district who fell in the war, and also those ex-service men who had returned home. He did not know when he saw a more unanimous vote in the Council than when her name was brought forward to receive this great honour, and he was sure all the ex-service men, and also those who had lost their dear ones, would feel they had honoured them by asking her to accept the Freedom of the Borough, and that they were doing the very least they could do.

The Mayor said he desired to endorse the hearty welcome extended by our Grand Old Freeman, Lord Roe, to those who were to join him on the roll of Honorary Freemen of this

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Borough. Time was in the bad old days when the Mayor for the time being held a Common Hall, consisting sometimes of himself only, and made hundreds of honorary freemen for political purposes. In modern times they had been more conscientious, and had conferred this honour very sparingly, the only recipients being three gentlemen pre-eminent locally and nationally—Marquis Curzon, Lord Roe, and the late Sir Henry Bemrose. Those whom they desired to honour that day would add lustre to the list. That Freedom was the highest honour they could bestow as a town, and they offered it in all humility as a tribute to the greatness, and as a mark of appreciation of the illustrious trio with them that day.

The names of Mrs. Rivers, mother of the late Jacob Rivers, V.C., His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, and Field-Marshal Earl Haig were as household words to all of them. It might be that in departing from the official programme, and naming them in that order, he was violating the canons of precedence, and laying himself open to the condemnation of the critics, but his reasons must be his excuse for any breach of etiquette. There was no pedestal too exalted upon which they could place the honoured mother with them that day. Whatever their station in life might be, they must, he thought, agree that hers was the precedence over all, and therefore he named her first. They were all proud to be townsmen of the mother of Derby's V.C. Her pride was their pride, and he trusted it would be some solace to her to know as they knew that the lustre of her son's achievement would never fade, as long as this town stood. Let them recall to mind Pte. Rivers' heroic deed.

The V.C. was awarded to Pte. Rivers for conspicuous bravery at Neuve Chapelle on the 12th of March, 1915. He twice crept to within a few yards of a mass of Germans, and hurled bombs amongst them so accurately that they were forced to retire, but his temerity cost him his life, as an enemy bullet unfortunately ended his career.

" In honouring the mother of such a worthy son of Britain," continued the Mayor, " I would remind you that we also honour all other mothers who gave their sons to our country's services, some to pay the supreme sacrifice as did Jacob Rivers, others to return to industrial trials as great as those experienced on the battlefield, but all to give food for thought and

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reflection, of duty nobly performed, and valour worthy of the best traditions of our race. I do not understand the feeling which made any thought of our reference to the Great War repugnant to so many of our countrymen. Rather should it be that we ever keep before us the fact that to them only—by the Grace of God—we owe our national existence. In the rush and turmoil of our daily life we must ever honour and succour those who returned, and find that quiet moment when we pay our silent homage to those who died to keep our England free. Deep down in our hearts we must treasure their memory, and day to day teach our children to reverence our glorious dead.

> To them the glory, to them the fame,
> Should we forget, then ours the shame.

" Mrs. Rivers, in asking your acceptance of this certificate, I am painfully aware that it fades into insignificance beside the coveted Cross you wear, but I ask your acceptance of it not only as an appreciation of your heroic son, but as a recognition of the whole of the many heroic men of Derby, who served their country in the Great War, whether on sea or land or in the air ; aye, and the many women of our town who served their country, too."

Addressing the Duke of Devonshire, the Mayor said : " I do not think, your Grace, that any words of mine are necessary to introduce one of your noble lineage to a gathering of Derby and Derbyshire people. We regard you as one of ourselves, a near and dear neighbour. The history of our town for many reasons has been bound up in the history of your house. Our debts to you and your illustrious forbears are manifold, and we wish to mark our indebtedness to-day. Great as is our town's debt to you, it fades into insignificance beside that which our country owes to you. Certain of our countrymen desire the abolition of our ancient ducal houses, deeming them, so they say, played out and effete. In fact, in our own town I have heard references to ' parasitical growths battening on the nation.' The records of your ancestors and of your Grace give the lie direct to such accusations. Your house has ever played a noble part in the cause of democracy. History tells us how the first Duke of Devonshire as a Leader in the Great Revolution in 1688 released England from bondage to a faithless King.

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Again, 100 years later, when the King, through the ministration of a corrupt Parliament, sought to rob England of her freedom, once again a Cavendish was found ready to risk his all for the sake of democracy. For many years you have spent your energies in the service of the public. As a young man you entered the House of Commons by the vote of the people. To enumerate your achievements since that time would take many days, but when, by a happy coincidence, fifteen years ago this very day you became in the course of nature head of the house of Cavendish, you abated not one jot your services on behalf of your country.

"Your Grace, it is an old saying that some men are born great, others achieve greatness. You must plead guilty upon both counts. I venture to say, however, that had the accident of birth placed you in a far humbler walk of life, you would nevertheless have achieved greatness by your own effort. Never have you hidden your talent of service in the ground, but always have you placed it unreservedly at the service of your fellow-countrymen. As Mayor of Chesterfield and Buxton, as Chairman of the Bakewell Board of Guardians, and in a multitude of other ways you have—in the midst of your Imperial duties—acquainted yourself with the needs of the people, and the domestic details of local government. At a time when your manifold activities had entitled you to a well-earned rest you were called upon to serve your country overseas as Governor-General of Canada. Nobly you responded, and as nobly fulfilled your duty. The knowledge and experience gained by you in that high office fitted you—in a marked degree—for the office you now hold as His Majesty's Minister for the Colonies. The success of our industry, the future of our country, and the perpetuation of our race is dependent on our Colonies, and in your hands we feel sure that we may safely leave the future. Derby's hope is that you may be long spared to share the direction of the nation's destinies, and to enjoy the reward of a lifelong service in the shape of a peaceful, prosperous, and happy Britain.

"Let this scroll be Derby's evidence of its consciousness of duty well performed, and of the public voice of praise that honours merit and rewards it."

To Earl Haig the Mayor said: "My Lord, in days now long

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since dead, Derby entertained, much against her will, certain fellow-countrymen of yours. I speak of the time when Scotland and England did not see eye to eye politically, and Bonnie Prince Charlie came riding south. Tradition has it that as the Highlanders entered by the Ashbourne Road, our trained bands (the militia of the town) made brave muster—and left by the Nottingham Road. Be that as it may, tradition also tells us that certain Derbyshire men cut off and slew a Highlander, and finding his skin so tough, they tanned it and 'it did make very serviceable leather.' I hasten to quieten any qualms you may now be feeling by assuring you that Derby's ideas of hospitality have changed considerably for the better during the last century and a half, and we no longer regard guests from across the Border as potential providers of shoe leather. May I also remark that our Derby lads have long since lost the art of presenting their backs to the foe, a fact that you, sir, knowing the achievements of our gallant Notts and Derby Regiments, can, no doubt, confirm.

"My Lord, we feel that you are no stranger to us, for it seems only a very short time ago that so many of our townsmen and women were serving under you in France. On their return they simply emphasised what every Briton knew and believed, that in your hands this country's prestige was safe. They saw in you, and we re-echo their sentiments, the beau-ideal of chivalry. That cool, calm courage that masters all obstacles was yours. The *flair* of leadership, which not only inspires love, but enobles all concerned, was yours. If ever commander had the love of his troops it was you, and love conquers all things. There is no necessity for me to enlarge upon your war service. It is recognised nationally and internationally, and its details are within the minds of all.

"Suffice it to say that after four years of blackness, of intrepid valour and self-sacrifice on the part of the Empire, you won through to an honourable and victorious peace. That you did not find rest after so many arduous years makes our gratitude all the greater. In the past, history tells us that the inevitable result of war is the neglect of the soldier. You have written a new page in history, and have led a new campaign, seeking to rouse this country to a sense of its obligation to its sons. The ex-service men's appreciation of your efforts

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is demonstrated by their attendance here to-day in large numbers. If our thankfulness towards you is sincere, we shall show it in the practical way, by backing you with all our power in this campaign on behalf of our returned troops. To show you how this town is with you heart and soul I ask your acceptance of this evidence of the highest honour we can give. May God prosper your work and bring success to your labours."

" Ladies and Gentlemen,—I fear you will deem my meed of praise towards our honoured guests sadly lacking, but I must ask your indulgence and simultaneously on your behalf beg them to multiply many times all the sentiments of your regard which I have expressed, in order to convey adequately that regard."

The Mayor went on to say it had been customary in the past to enclose the certificates of the Freedom in caskets of value. That this was not so to-day was due not to parsimony, but to the express desire of the recipients, who recognised that in the present unfortunate state of unemployment and distress in the country, no ostentatious display should mark the appreciation of esteem and gratitude, hence the absence of any feasting or display such as marked these civic ceremonies in the old days.

An occasion like that, however, could not fail to bring home the full force of Longfellow's immortal lines :—

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

In conclusion, the Mayor said : " In honouring great men, we honour ourselves. In copying their examples we shall rise to higher things. Remember, too, example is better than precept—the man of action, be he artisan, artist, poet, soldier, or statesman, by his very acts leaves the world a little better than before. To continue Longfellow's ' Psalm of Life '—

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate,
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour and to wait."

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The Duke of Devonshire said it was from the bottom of his heart that he thanked them for the honour which the old country town had conferred upon him. He also thanked the Mayor and Ald. Dr. Laurie for the almost embarrassing terms in which they had referred to such services as he had been able to render. After all, any success which his association had had with the county had given him unmitigated satisfaction, and by their action that afternoon he could only take it that they wished to signify their approval of the course he had followed in his career. He had not yet discovered either the duties or emoluments of the office of Lord High Steward of the Borough of Derby. He could only draw the conclusion that both their and his affairs were so well conducted that they had no reason or occasion to refer to the High Steward for advice. Reference had been made that afternoon to the fact that he was selected by His Majesty the King for the high and responsible duty of Governor-General of Canada. He frankly confessed that when he left the old country, the period of five years seemed a very long time to look forward to. He was proud to have had the honour of holding that position in the anxious and difficult period of our history.

When he left Great Britain we were in the dark and anxious days when we were straining every nerve and doing everything that was in their power and which eventually led to the great victory in which his fellow Freeman, Earl Haig, had been so closely and nobly connected. When he landed on the shores of Canada he found the same spirit of determination—although thousands of miles away from the actual scenes of conflict—as there was in this country. It was by the utilisation of those qualities of unity and determination which enabled us to achieve victory in time of war that we should be able to turn the victory to the best possible use in the future. If we were true to ourselves and our history, if we turned to the best advantage the great lessons which we learned at a heavy cost during the war, those terrible losses would not have been in vain, and just as the British Empire was at the conclusion of hostilities the greatest force ever known in history for the purposes of conducting war, so, we trusted, in the future it would be the greatest force in the world for the maintenance of a lasting, honourable and permanent peace.

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At the immediate moment it was his privilege as Secretary for the Colonies to work out, or assist in working out, those problems by which we could make our Empire still happier, still greater, and still nobler. Literally from day to day he was in close connection with those—many of them from overseas—who were working on the problems. Only the previous day he had the privilege of taking part inth e sending off of a delegation visiting Australia for the purpose of opening out and developing opportunities which lay in that great country to those of our fellow-countrymen at home who were willing and anxious to start in the Dominion. It had been ordained that the great open spaces in the world which were still to be developed to the uses of civilisation and mankind lay within the British Empire. It was our wish and determination that that great heritage should be developed by British industry, brains, capital, and labour, and if that were so he was sure that many of the present-day problems could be faced with confidence. His one regret on that occasion, and he was sure they all shared it with him, was that they had not the pleasure of seeing their old friend Lord Roe upon the platform. Lord Roe was rightly and justly honoured in his own borough and throughout the county, and they could only trust that it would be a matter of only a few days before he was able again to take his place in the life of the town.

His Grace went on to say that that was the first opportunity he had had in the town or county to say how deeply he deplored the loss which the county sustained by the death of a gentleman who was known and honoured throughout the length and breadth of the county. He referred to Col. Brooke-Taylor. His devotion and loyalty to the county and everything connected with it was indeed a source of inspiration to those who came in contact with him. It would be difficult to find anyone who could adequately take his place.

In conclusion, the Duke said he could only thank them from the bottom of his heart for the generous expressions of goodwill and the honour conferred on him. He trusted that in the future they would have no cause to regret that they had added his name to the list which had so rightly been described as the highest honour a town could give.

Earl Haig, who was received with enthusiastic applause,

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said it was a great honour for any man to receive the freedom of an ancient centre of civic and industrial life. Derby was a town which, though it might not to-day be equal in population to certain others of the greater towns of the Midlands and North of England, yet could compare with any in antiquity of origin, and in the long course of years had won by the enterprise and endeavour of its citizens a steady increase in prosperity. He did very deeply appreciate the honour and the kindness they had shown him that day, and they would believe him, he was sure, when he told them that he considered the honour all the greater and the kindliness all the more intimate and friendly from the fact that they had invited him in company with the mother of Derby's V.C., and a man who not only bore a name long familiar in this neighbourhood and well and honourably known throughout the length and breadth of the Empire, but who himself had added imperishably to the lustre of the name he bore. He (the speaker) was indeed proud to receive the freedom on the day that a Duke of Devonshire was admitted to the same honourable state. In his introductory remarks the Mayor had said many generous things about him (Earl Haig) and about the part he played in the Great War. He thanked his Worship, and was grateful for those words. It was a great source of pride and joy to him to be able to think that what he did in the discharge of duties laid upon him through long, dark and difficult years was not unappreciated by his fellow-countrymen, nor was without service to his country. Yet, when he had weighed the anxiety and responsibility that were his, and taken to himself all the credit that he fairly might, he knew that it was not to him, but to the men of all ranks who fought so loyally and well under his command, that was due in far the greater measure the lasting gratitude of his fellow-countrymen and women. He knew, and was glad to think, that even this personal honour they had paid him in such warm and friendly fashion that day was offered not to him alone, but was a tribute of affection also to the splendid army he once commanded—and on occasions such as that still represented. The ex-service men of Derby were his introduction to them that day. No man could ask a better. They were sponsors to be proud of. It had been a real pleasure to him to meet some few of them before the ceremony,

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and to be able now publicly to express to them, and to the town and countryside that sent them out to fight, his own personal sense of gratitude for the splendid work they did.

All through the Army of the Great War, from the original regular divisions of August, 1914, to the mighty force which four years later broke down finally and for ever the resistance of the German Armies in the West, were to be found the same high qualities of courage, discipline and self-sacrifice. It were idle and unseemly to attempt to exalt one regiment or division above another when all did their duty. But local pride and esprit de corps were excellent things and to be cherished. Here in Derby they had good reason to be proud of their own men, and of their own Regiment, and he should be doing less than his own duty did he fail on such an occasion as this to refer however lightly—and however well known to them the story might be—to some few of the famous actions in which their own men took part.

The story of the part played by Derbyshire troops in France and Flanders was indeed a stirring one. They shared in some of the most tragic and most anxious episodes of the war, and took part in some of its most brilliant achievements. They fought in many divisions, and in one or other of them saw practically the whole course of the war on the Western Front. The 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters, the old 95th Foot, were with the 6th Division on the Aisne, and on the 20th September regained by a dashing counter-attack the trenches in which the West Yorkshires had been outflanked and surmounted owing to the giving way of the Allied troops on the right of the British line. The 1st Battalion also were with the 8th Division in November, 1914, and from then on shared in a long succession of battles and engagements—Neuve Chapelle, Bois Grenier, the Somme, Passchendael—until in March, 1918, they came to that most tragic yet most glorious of defensive battles in which, as one of the units of the sorely tried Fifth Army, the 45th Foot fought against desperate odds so devotedly and so heroically that when at length the battle ended in the enemy's defeat, the Battalion found itself reduced to little more than cadre strength.

Nor were the Territorial and Service Battalions of the Notts and Derby Regiment one whit behind their comrades of

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the Regular Army in steadfast endeavour or magnificent achievement. He had only to instance the performance of the 1/5th, 1/6th, and 1/8th Battalions with the 46th Division in the final victorious advance of 1918. Without doubt, one of the most remarkable single episodes of the whole advance, and not the least important, was the capture of Bellenglise and the overrunning of the canal defences of the Hindenburg Line by the 46th Division in the battle of the 29th September. The operation was a critical one. The fortunes of the Army as a whole had been committed to an assault in force, upon the most powerful system of defence on the Western Front, by the attack of the First Army two days previously. That attack had proved brilliantly successful; but for its success to be completed and the full fruits of victory reaped, it was essential that the operations of the Fourth Army should be carried through with a like vigour and success. On the left centre and the left of the Fourth Army assault success on the 29th was only partial; but on the right centre and right the skilful and careful plans and perfect execution of the 46th carried all before them, and, seconded by the 1st and 32nd Divisions, turned partial failure into overwhelming victory. The 4,200 prisoners and 70 guns taken by the 46th Division alone on that day were but an indication of the decisive nature of their achievement.

It was to the men who did those things that he, as their former commander, tendered his thanks that day, here in their own city and among their own people. That they were proud of them, he knew, and they were worthy of such pride. And they deserved more. They deserved, and he asked for them, that in the difficult post-war days—when many of these men daily engaged in a struggle for existence—scarcely less bitter and persistent than that other struggle across the Channel—they should obtain from the people whose homes and fortunes they helped to save all the consideration and active practical assistance that it was in their power to give. The years passed, and the memory of those other days of stress and turmoil and anxiety gradually faded, yet both the debt they owed those men and their own present need were living things. He asked them to forget neither, and to deal honestly and generously with them now that the face of

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the nation was set, as they hoped and believed, to better things. Concluding, Earl Haig said he was indeed deeply grateful to them for all the honour and the kindness they had showered upon him that day. He should not easily forget the welcome they had given him.

Mrs. Rivers briefly responded, and said she was proud to receive the honour of the freedom of Derby, her only regret being that her son was not the recipient instead. At any rate, she had the satisfaction of knowing he died a true British soldier.

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XII

REMINISCENCES OF EARLY NATAL

By Thomas Green

(Kindly communicated by the late Mr. C. Bird, late Under-Secretary for the Interior in Natal.)

(MR. CHRISTOPHER JOHN BIRD, C.M.G., who died at Pietermaritzburg on November 17th, 1922, aged sixty-seven, entered the Natal Civil Service in 1874 and was appointed Principal Under-Secretary of Natal on the establishment of responsible government in 1893. When the Union of South Africa was established in May, 1910, he acted as Under-Secretary for the Interior in Natal till his retirement in September, 1911. He had been chairman of the Natal Civil Service Board, and a member of the Union Civil Service Commission. His father, Mr. John Bird, C.M.G., was, like him, a member of the Natal Civil Service, and was the author of a valuable work, *The Annals of Natal*, 1495–1845. His grandfather, Col. C. C. Bird, was Secretary to the Governor of the Cape.)

I arrived in Cape Town with my regiment (the 45th) on the 3rd of May, 1843, but was sent by general order of Sir George Napier, the Military General and Governor of the Cape, to join the Engineers, then the Sappers and Miners. They were short-handed: I was a tradesman and my services were required.

The route came, and we were ordered to march for Natal. We marched on the 9th to Simon's Town and got on board the *Thunderbolt*, war steamer, for Natal. We arrived at the outer anchorage on the 26th May, and landed 200 men, 14 Engineers, some Artillery, and some 25 men of the Cape Corps. The Cape Corps were then all Bastards and

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Hottentots, and supposed to be the best light cavalry in H.M. service. The landing was done by the steamer's long-boat, as no other boat or ship appeared. It was a difficult task landing troops in so small a boat; however, it was done successfully. So we pitched our tents about where the Custom House stands at present and took up a position of defence, for the Boers were all about.

I stood amazed at the beauty of the scene. Everything was primitive—the hand of man had not defaced it. The inner bay was like a sheet of silver, with the wild fowl that man had never frightened. I thought the bay the most beautiful sight that I had ever seen. But the sunset that evening in May with the golden tints beggars any description that I can give. I have never seen the like before in Ireland, where I came from. The beautiful Berea untouched, all one sheet of ever-green; and I was told that elephants were there, and lots of other animals, which I soon found to be true. I was satisfied with Natal then, though uninhabited, for this was my first day in Natal.

The first man I noticed was Mr. Mesham, salting beef in a tub, with a voorlooper's shirt on; he was afterwards a magis-trate, but when first I saw him he wore no coat or boots. The schooner *Fawn* was lying inside, with some guns and a few men; her back was broken in crossing the Bar. Capt. Nourse commanded her. A few of the *Fawn's* men stayed in Natal: Jack Cotton and Fred Phillips, both quiet and respectable citizens; old Hugh Macdonald, who afterwards owned the Royal Hotel in Smith Street, Durban; also Charlie Macdonald, his brother, both good men. Hugh brought a ship called the *Pilot* once a month from the Cape with the little supplies we wanted, but often she wouldn't come for four months, and then there was almost a famine.

There were no "Misters" in those days; each called the other Bill, Tom, and Dick. We were very scant of clothing then, military as well as civilian. We were at one time so reduced for trousers that we shot a large buck, the skin of which was brayed, and the Hottentots made trousers for us, sewn with the sinews of the buck.

There was one particular man whom we almost worshipped for his heroism, Dick King, whose farm was at Isipingo.

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Chief Ogle was here—his farm was Wentworth; also Fynn had a farm on the Bluff, by right of squatting, long before anyone else was here. George Cato was here, and his brother Joe; Mr. Beningfield, old Mr. Kahts, John Hogg, Mr. Dunn, father of John Dunn, and, I believe, the doctor of the *Fawn*. John Dunn's father was a medical man; I well remember his drinking with Dr. Best. One evening in 1847 the night was stormy, with sudden heavy showers of rain. Dunn was advised not to go home that night (it was Saturday), but persisted in doing so. Early on Sunday morning the report came in that Dunn was dead. He was found just where you turn to go up to Sea View; there were no marks on the body, so I believe his death was from apoplexy or from a fall off his horse. But a report soon spread that he was killed by an elephant. I said at the time it was strange that he should have been killed by an elephant, seeing that there were no marks.

It was war time (1843) and martial law was proclaimed. We had a "shook up" thing of a guard-room, enough to keep the sun off. I was musing on sentry; there was a dull moon, and plenty of phosphorus on the beach. I saw something come out of the bay like a sheet of fire: as to size and ugliness I never saw anything like it. Being young and coming from Ireland, the country of lakes (where every lake has its traditions), of river bulls and huge eels showing up at various times, I was thoroughly frightened; and as it was death to quit one's post, I came down to "resist cavalry." The monster passed me by and went on towards Cato's Creek; but I was so frightened that I kept half-way between my post and the guard, so that I could run either way. It was a weary two hours for me, but at last I got relieved. I never opened my lips to mortal man. I knew I dare not fire or give a false alarm, or my comrades might say I was a coward, so I held my tongue. Early next morning Longhinds, a grenadier of the 27th, standing six feet eight high, came down from the trench where the old military camp stands and where he was on fatigue. He shouted, "Boys, what a fine sea-cow passed by last night!" All went to see the tracks; it was then I opened my mouth and told my comrades what I had seen. Since that time I have seen sea-cows in the inner bay, and

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have observed them chased by Mr. William Quested, who lived at Congella.

In 1844 an elephant was killed by John Dunn or John Hill (then known as Black Jack). I don't know for certain which killed the elephant. Its bones were all carefully collected and kept in the garden of an old butcher named Webb. Afterwards the same garden was owned by a Mr. Todman. The Berea had all sorts of animals then, and was so unsafe that if offered to any man to live there he would say no.

Men in Durban when I arrived :—

Mr. Mesham. English.
Dick King ; petty chief. English (Devonshire).
Henry Ogle ; chief. English (Birmingham).
Henry Fynn ; Kaffir chief. English.
Samuel Beningfield. English.
George Cato ; a wonderful man. South African.
Joseph Cato ; clever architect. South African.
Frank Armstrong ; shoemaker. Irish.
John Mackenzie ; blacksmith (later owned Craigie Burn sugar estate at Umkomas). Scotch.
Thos. or Wm. Proudfoot (partner afterwards with Dick King). Scotch.
John Hogg (son of Pete Hogg). English.
Old Mr. Wm. Leathern (a man of superior ability and a dear friend of mine ; afterwards Mayor of Pietermaritzburg). English.
Wm. Leathern, jnr., known and respected by all ; born in Africa.
John King, brother of Dick, a good and useful citizen. Africander.
Arthur Walker (known as Hookey), afterwards Attorney Walker ; kept a little half-way house between Durban and Maritzburg ; afterwards one of Natal's ablest criminal lawyers.
A German naturalist and doctor, lived near where Mr. Escombe now lives, a wonderful man of science—Carl Quincias.*
Polydore Short, known as Polly Short, who died on the Bluff lately.

* Should be W. Gucinzius. See *Annals of Natal*, Vol. 2, p. 82.

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A German called Jung, and Jargal, a Frenchman, who were afterwards partners in business.

Mr. Shield, Commissary at Pietermaritzburg. Irish.

Carl Behrens was here, but with the Dutch. He was German.

Joe Kirkman, who had been with the Rev. A. Grout.

Rev. Adams, a missionary at the Congella.

Rev. Archibald, military chaplain.

Black Jack, an American, and Elephant White.

Dr. Tuohy (a chemist, but called Dr.); adopted Kaffir life and settled at Tugela.

Dr. John Dunn; settled at Sea View as a squatter.

A man named Kinloch, a clever poet and a highly learned man. Scotch. Some of his poems are in the hands of William Leathern, jnr., and should be published. Kinloch took to Kaffir life.

There lived then in Durban, where the Club now is, a Dutch widow named Strydon, who had a numerous family of sons and daughters. One of her daughters married Pete Hogg, and another Jim Rorke, and they settled somewhere up the country. Mrs. Strydon was a general favourite in Durban; she was almost a doctor, and everyone ran with their ailments to Mother Strydon.

There were no post-offices then, and no banks or Courts in Durban. Furniture was unknown, and there were no houses except Kaffir ones. We had four sticks stuck in the ground for a bedstead. We put bearers on them, and crossed pieces of brushwood with grass on the top: with a grass pillow and a blanket we slept the sleep of the just. It was almost laughable to see some of us. Capt. Hugh Macdonald brought some flour from the Cape; we rushed for the bags and made trousers of them, and were afraid lest "Mills Cape First" should show. There was one Napoleon Wheeler, in later years Market Master in Pietermaritzburg.

The Bar was then a straight line in a diagonal direction from south to north. We went out in 1843 with the *Fawn's* men, and hadn't to strip our clothes to kill three porpoises which were cast up on the Bar. We killed the porpoises and eat a portion of them.

A couple of years after (in 1845, I think) the three brothers

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Milner came out. They seemed to be nautical men, and traded with the ship *Sarah Bell* between Natal and Mauritius in later years. There was no money in the country in 1843; Kaffirs or natives would take no money. They would take a few strings of beads for their honey and potatoes. I found they had nice kidney potatoes at that time, but these are now extinct.

Frank Bird* was in the Ordnance Department at the Cape, and came to Natal at intervals of perhaps a month or four or six months. He was the first man to bring any money to Natal; he brought the military money. I think he was a lieutenant in the Ordnance Department, because when we saw him a-coming we used to say "the Bird is flying." At one time the military money used to come up in cartridges of 3d. pieces—the first time the "tickey" was introduced.

Mr. Jas. Brickhill was a clerk in the Commissary's office. He was afterwards manager of the Natal Bank. About 1846 an *umfezi* spat in his face and nearly blinded him. He was discharged on a pension of 2s. 8½d. per day for life. It was then he began "Brickhill's Lotion." After he was discharged from the Service his eyes got well and he got the appointment mentioned.

After I had spent two months at the Point on very severe duty we were removed to the Camp and joined the Inniskilling Regiment.† The men were the tallest I have ever seen in the Army; with their busbies on they were like a walking forest. They were all beloved by the civilians who were here; the men bore splendid characters, and they were more like civilians than soldiers. Some had red on their coats of various colours, and some had patches on their clothing. Though these men had had to lie in a wet trench, with a daily ration of four ounces of horseflesh and three ounces of biscuit dust, there was no murmur and every man was obedient. They were only skeletons of companies after the Congella affair.

We got "the route" (the 45th and Engineers) and marched to Pietermaritzburg on the 7th August, 1843. We were two companies of the 45th, about fifteen Engineers, and some Artillery with three guns. The 27th remained in Durban. We were commanded by Capt. Kyle (whose father was Bishop

* Brother to John Bird. † The 27th Regiment.

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of Cork) and Capt. Hinde, and Lieuts. Armstrong, Blenkinsopp, Smythe, and Miller. We marched loaded and carried sixty round of ammunition each, and arrived on the hill of Maritzburg on the last day of August, 1843, planted the standard, and called it Fort Napier. We marched up the hill, the fifes and drums playing "The Sprig of Shillelagh" and "Garry Owen." Next morning the Engineers began to fortify by building a stone battery on the east and a traversing battery on the west. We were twenty-five men in a round bell-tent, and soon began to build a temporary barracks of stone, which took two years to finish. The officials in town asked as a great compliment to get an artisan to build their houses. I was recommended. I drew civilian's as well as my Engineer's pay, so did well, and almost regarded myself as a civilian.

The *Winchester* war frigate was on the African coast in January, 1843, and chased a pirate ship, whose crew took to the boats and landed somewhere about the Umzimkulu. They made their way overland and came to Pietermaritzburg in August or September, 1843. They stole every horse they could lay hands upon. Poor Mr. Hookey Walker was a great sufferer; all his horses were taken. The military stables had to be double-guarded. A few of the pirates settled down—Jack Linden and Joe the Butcher among them—and lived and died in Pietermaritzburg. It was laughable to see a certain "lady" serenading with the pirates, firing pistols in the dead of the night and glorying in being called "the pirates' bride."

Only a few of the 27th took their discharge, including MacKormick, Patrick Bryan, Coope, and a few whose names I forget. They were Irish. MacKormick married a Dutch girl named Sloppar (? Klopper) and did well. A baker named Brewer with his wife came from the Cape about that time; they were very kind to many of us, there being no hotels or boarding-houses at that time—every man for himself. John Vanderplank was here, and a man named Shears was his partner, so report said. Shears was found dead in his bed, but no enquiry was made into the circumstances. Shears was supposed to have been well off, but no enquiry was ever made for next of kin, I believe. There was a notorious renegade who led the Kaffirs against the whites in the Old Colony.

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He was in the Dutch tronk in Pietermaritzburg for horse-stealing, and died there. The *Waterloo* convict ship was wrecked in Table Bay about March, 1843. The chains were knocked off the convicts to give them a chance of saving their lives. Many of these convicts were recognised in Pietermaritzburg afterwards.

A refined German named Ohrtmann and Jung and Jargal started wholesale warehouses. A Frenchman named Cauvin, Albrecht, and the Boshoffs were here; also the Marais, old Thys Marais van Jagerveldt, Andries Pretorius, a fine gentleman whose farm was " Plessis Laager "—in fact, all the Boers were settled about Pietermaritzburg. Old Liversage was at Umgeni.

All in Pietermaritzburg seemed to live more comfortably than those in Durban. There were no vegetables then. On account of the bad roads in Durban you could not walk unless up to your neck in sand. Then the man who could build " wattle and daub " was the man. To thatch a house was then an accomplishment. Education was of no use; manual labour was the thing in demand.

The 27th Regiment left and went to the Old Colony about 1845. Many of the 45th purchased their discharge, settled down and became good and useful citizens in Pietermaritzburg. To show what many of them were, I may mention that Andrew Muirhead was a B.A. His family also followed education, and his sons are now schoolmasters. He was of Irish extraction. Sergt. Pike also was Irish. He was hospital sergeant in the 45th, and afterwards Superintendent of Durban Hospital. A good man, George Ross, of Nottingham, kept the Aliwal Tavern in Longmarket Street, and got rich. His son George is a successful farmer near Howick, I believe. Wm. Burroughs was a good citizen; also a man known to all named Gibby. A man named Lamont kept a canteen, made money and died at Durban. Polly Short, a moneylender and great landowner, died at the Bluff, where his children now are. There was Piet Otto, a farmer, and two brothers Zeederberg, two of the finest gentlemen who ever lived. They were large landowners and had land and farms over the whole country. Good kind men they were, but shortsighted; they would not sell land at any price, and at last Piet came to grief. Jacobus married Piet Otto's daughter, and both are now dead. Napoleon Wheeler

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came in 1843; he was English, and used to draw wood from Meyer's Hoek. He was afterwards Market Master at Pietermaritzburg. Predikant Smit was a good old Dutchman; his son George was a pettifogging attorney. About that time came Dr. French and de Villiers. The latter was an uncle of John Dunn, and came from the Cape. Both Dr. French and de Villiers underwent sentence in gaol—I think six months. De Villiers was a clever advocate, but defrauded his clients or embezzled their money. Dr. French suffered for practising without a diploma, and there was also something about the death of a Mrs. van der Merwe. At first the whole of the Dutchmen were about Pietermaritzburg, and a lot settled in the town. They were a very quiet people, but in 1844 they began to migrate to the Mooi River Dorp, so that in a short time the Dutch element vanished.

The 45th were bridge-builders and road-makers between Pietermaritzburg and Durban. They made that great cutting at the Inchanga under the supervision of the Engineers. They were all paid so much per diem and did well. They were all temperate men, for the old 45th were a well-ordered corps and very submissive and obedient. They helped many of the immigrants who came later on.

I was sent down to get headstones for the graves of those who fell at Congella, and to letter them. I got the stones at the Bluff. Time has so worn them that I cannot read the names myself now. The Bar was in such a state then that Capt. Gibb, of the Royal Engineers, ordered a survey, which lies in the Harbour Engineer's office to-day. We had a surplus of £800 in the military estimate, and that sum was devoted to the survey from Umgeni to Cato's Creek. We made the canal successfully with a view of turning the Umgeni into Cato's Creek to scour the Bar. That was about the latter end of 1846 or the beginning of 1847, but a great flood came and washed the banks in. We had no more money, so had to leave the work. The marks of the canal works are there to-day. After I completed my job I had to sink a well at the old Camp, which is good to-day. I got assistance and had to build a magazine at the Point, which many may remember, as it was slated.

In 1844 I was ordered to attend in Pietermaritzburg, and

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was employed on the delimitation survey of this Colony. Our party was large, and included Capt. Gibb, R.E., Capt. Kyle, 45th Regiment, and Mr. Theophilus Shepstone, who was our safeguard and everything to the party. There were also fifteen picked men of the Royal Engineers, four Artillerymen, and about twenty-five of the 45th. I was one of the picked men. (Read Sir Theophilus Shepstone's reminiscences from *Honey Bird*. He refers to his old friend Mr. Thomas Green, who doubted his story of the honey bird at Duguza, now Stanger.)

The 45th were the real pioneers of the Colony, ready and willing to do every work that came in their way, no matter whether civil or military: no grumble, as it was for the good of Natal.

The Kaffirs had four attributes no other men on the earth possessed—they were sober, honest, virtuous and obedient. No case of theft was known, though everything was under their noses. There were no locks nor keys then. Order the natives to go thirty or forty miles, give them a loaf and a piece of beef, and they completed their task honestly.

The 45th man was a sort of amphibious animal—half soldier, half civilian. Though poorly clothed and fed, he pioneered hard for the Colony.

In 1845 headquarters arrived—Colonel Boys, band and staff. After that Martin West, the first Governor, came, and Judge Cloete, one of the best of men. Donald Moodie was Secretary to the Government. Shortly afterwards came a young lawyer chosen at home for his ability—Mr. Gallwey, now Sir Michael, the Attorney-General. He found everything a blank page; he began and framed every law, and advised every Government in Natal up to the date of his promotion to the Chief Judgeship. The country should be grateful to Sir Michael, who has done his work honestly and well. I am myself proud of him, especially as my countryman. Mr. John Bird, a Mr. Piers, and Laurence Cloete were Government Surveyors, and then came Dr. Stanger as Surveyor-General. It was then that the machinery of the law got put into motion. The Courts began, though we had done very well without them in the past. Our young Attorney-General greased the machinery, and the law seemed to work very smoothly.

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Magistrates were appointed, and people began to steal into Natal in ones and twos. We were all men, scarcely any women; so that when the first shipload of immigrants came, the women were worshipped—it was so long since we had seen an Englishwoman that we were all off our heads. In 1848 the ship *Henry Tanner* brought the first immigrants to Natal. You may think what was our state of mind when we saw our countrywomen with the blush of the rose or the daisy on their cheeks, and the compliments or "blarney" we paid to those fine women. I can assure you we laid on the butter so thick that many of them were thrown off their balance and "balekile'd" from their good husbands. Poor things! they thought they had made a mistake in the choice of their husbands, for we had good money. Our experience we gave to the immigrants freely.

Dr. Addison arrived in that ship—the first M.D. in Natal. John Akerman was here then, teaching in a Dutch family, and had hard work to make ends meet; but "there is a tide in the affairs of men," etc. At that time there was a chemist here named van Zweel, who went mad. He was a successful, good chemist; but a mad one was very dangerous, so Mr. John Akerman stepped into his shoes and became a prosperous chemist.

The immigrants all came to Maritzburg; nothing was doing in Durban—it was a mere waste of sand. But most of them were free Yorkshire farm labourers who understood cattle and could work hard. There wasn't much education amongst them; a little flannel rag, soap and water would clean them of their education. There was a butcher among them, Puckering by name, who was well off. Beef was cheap then, 1½d. per lb., so that there was no danger of hunger. Some men I know worked at 3s. per diem. Cattle were cheap, and they soon got a cart and four or six oxen to carry loads to and fro; and most of these men or their sons are wealthy men to-day. Amongst them was Mr. Wakefield, a man of considerable means, who started a large bakery and confectioner's shop and became wealthy. His family is settled all over the country, respectable good citizens. My daughter is married to a son of Mr. Wakefield, and is settled down in comfortable circumstances. Another daughter was married to "Polly"

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Short, whose son is lighthouse-keeper at the Point at the present day, and one of her daughters is married to Pilot Gordon. All of Wakefield's family are respectably settled in the Colony.

I was talking to a gentleman in Verulam a year ago. I called his name Carter. He said, "No, my name is Mason; I was once Mayor of Pietermaritzburg." He said, "Don't you remember employing my cart to drive you to Illovo, where you were going to build for somebody there?" I then remembered. Oh, what a surprise! Many men who came at that time rose by their own energy and perseverance to be the wealthiest men about the district of Pietermaritzburg. More power to them!

Reminiscences of Myself (Thomas Green)

On the 3rd May, 1848, I purchased my discharge from the 45th Regiment, after spending some 7 years and 150 days in the Army, with the Engineers, the 27th Regiment and the 45th Regiment, so I have had a varied experience. The Colony of Natal has a great deal to thank the 27th for; they fought and bled, and handed us Natal watered with their blood. The 45th kept a firm hold on it and tried to develop it. The 27th of that date were not like the 27th of late years that came to Natal. They were about as fine fellows as ever carried arms for Her Majesty.

I brought from the Army an exemplary character, which I have tried to keep up as well as I could. I was always a great favourite with my officers, and began in Pietermaritzburg as a builder and contractor. In 1851 I married Dick King's sister, and was brought to belong to the family of the famous Dick King. His sister, my wife, was the second volume of her famous brother, and was a good wife and mother, never afraid to rough it or give her help when required. She lived with me thirty-six years and died in Durban. We had a large family of daughters, not one of whom ever brought a blush to the cheek of father or mother. I can safely say that no gentleman in Natal need ever be ashamed to shake hands with any of my generation. I believe there are fifty-six grandchildren, all good respectable citizens in Natal.

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I became one of the people of Durban. I revered and respected them, and I think the men of Durban the finest, warmest-hearted people in the world. On this 26th October, 1896, I am fourscore years of age, and am proud to say that all my faculties are unimpaired and sound as a bell; so I have a good fortune left me—long life and good health, a great fortune.

Strange that I should have been appointed to put up the first monument to the slain of the 27th, for in 1879 I put up the military monument on a large scale to the 27th. The public could not raise money enough (£80), so I said, "Give me what money you have. I will do the labour for love." And there it stands in the military cemetery, Durban, to-day.

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XIII

THE CANTERBURY RIOT, 1838

By Major W. H. Wilkin

THE fatal riot at Bossenden Wood was caused by an impostor, a swindler, and a madman, who called himself Sir William Courtenay. His real name was John Nichols Tom. His father was an innkeeper and small farmer at St. Columb, in Cornwall. The boy was born there and baptised on November 10th, 1799. His mother died in the County Lunatic Asylum.

In his youth John Nichols Tom was employed for three years as clerk to a solicitor at St. Columb, and he was then clerk for seven years to a firm of wine-merchants at Truro. In 1821 he married. His wife's family also suffered from insanity, but fortunately the union proved childless. In 1826 he set up for himself as a malster and hop-dealer at Truro. He is said to have had an epileptic fit early in 1832, and shortly afterwards he disappeared from Cornwall.

During the next few months he imposed on various people in London and elsewhere under the aliases of the Hon. Sydney Percy, Count Moses Rothschild and Squire Thompson. The stories of his travels in the Holy Land were entirely fictitious, but there was a certain amount of humour in the fact that he actually succeeded in collecting money from the Jews in London, on behalf of their compatriots in Palestine, by posing as Count Moses Rothschild and announcing that he was shortly returning to the Holy Land and would personally see to the distribution of the money.

In August, 1832, he appeared at Canterbury, and styled himself Sir William Percy Honeywood Courtenay. He announced that he was the heir to the Earldom of Devon, and called himself a Knight of Malta and sometimes King of Jerusalem. He went about in gorgeous clothes of an Oriental

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style, and acquired a certain sort of popularity by spending lavishly the money which he extracted from his dupes. At the General Election in December, 1832, he actually polled 375 votes for Canterbury. In March, 1833, he started a paper called *The Lion*, which he wrote himself. Eight numbers appeared. His proceedings were, however, brought to an abrupt close, for at the Maidstone Assizes in July, 1833, he was convicted of perjury and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, to be followed by seven years' transportation. During a trial which took place in the previous February, in consequence of a fight between the Revenue Officers and some smugglers near the Goodwin Sands, Courtenay swore that he was present and saw the affair, but it was clearly proved that at the time in question he was at church close to Canterbury.

Before the end of his three months in prison Courtenay was found to be insane, and sent to the County Lunatic Asylum at Barming Heath. His behaviour there was good, and in November, 1835, he was actually allowed to issue an address to the citizens of Canterbury in connection with the election for the Town Council. In August, 1837, his father, who had at last found out what had become of him, petitioned the Home Secretary for his release, and in October a full pardon was granted and orders were issued that Courtenay should be released and handed over to his father. Unfortunately, Mr. Tom, senior, took no further action, and the released madman was delivered to one of his former supporters, George Francis, of Fairbrook, near Canterbury, with whom he lived for three months. At the end of that time Francis had had quite enough of him and asked him to go elsewhere. Courtenay then stayed at several cottages in the neighbourhood, and towards the end of May, 1838, he took up his quarters with some people named Culver at Bossenden Farm. He began to preach communistic doctrines and to stir up the labourers, and then he actually claimed to be the Messiah and showed the nail-marks in his hands and feet. It is a remarkable thing that he actually managed to collect a band of about 100 disciples, one of whom was a farmer who owned fifty acres of land. He armed his followers with stout cudgels.

On Monday, May 28th, and the two following days Courtenay moved about the villages in the neighbourhood,

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and made inflammatory speeches. On the Wednesday morning he went to Sittingbourne, but he returned in the evening to Bossenden. Meanwhile a farmer whose labourers had been enticed away applied for a warrant against Courtenay, and on the Wednesday evening warrants were issued against him and two other ringleaders.

Early on the morning of Thursday, May 31st, a constable named Mears went to Bossenden Farm, accompanied by his brother. Courtenay was informed that the constables were coming. Thereupon he came out of the farmhouse and shot the brother. He then rushed at the constable with a sword, but tripped up, and the constable escaped. Courtenay returned to the unfortunate wounded man and struck him three times with his sword. He then ordered several of his followers to throw the body into a ditch. After this the rioters went off to a neighbouring house and breakfasted, but by 8 a.m. they were back in Bossenden Wood. Courtenay administered the Sacrament to his followers in bread and water, and told them that the weapons of the soldiers would be powerless against them.

After the murder of Mears a messenger was at once sent to the Rev. Dr. Poore, a magistrate, and another to Canterbury for the military. During the morning Courtenay tried to murder Major Handley, a local gentleman, who advised his followers to leave him, but fortunately the bullet missed him.

Bossenden Farmhouse lies 1000 yards to the N. of the Canterbury-Faversham road (the old Roman Watling Street), and it is just four miles from Canterbury. A detachment of 100 men, consisting of two Companies of the 45th, was at once sent out. At the Red Lion, close to the fourth milestone, it was joined by the Rev. Dr. Poore, Mr. Norton Knatchbull (a cousin of the late Col. Norton Knatchbull, of the 95th), and two other magistrates. The detachment was commanded by Major Elliott Armstrong. The other Officers present were Capt James Reid, Lieut. Thomas Prendergast, and Lieut. Henry Boswell Bennett. Major Armstrong now divided his detachment into two parties. One party, commanded by Capt. Reid and accompanied by Lieut. Bennett and Mr. Knatchbull, went up the lane to Bossenden Farm; while Major Armstrong, together with Lieut. Prender-

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gast and Dr. Poore, moved a little further along the Faversham road and took the next turning to the N. by the road which runs outside the W. edge of Bossenden Wood. Thus the two parties entered the wood from opposite sides.

Bossenden Wood extends for about 1200 yards from N. to S., and about 400 to 500 from E. to W. The farmhouse stands in a narrow clearing on the E. side of the wood. On the E. side of this clearing is another very large wood, which extends for two miles from E. to W., and a mile and a half from N. to S. Bossenden farmhouse is a two-storey red-brick building, but at the N. end a newer portion has been added since 1838. The wood to-day consists for the most part of small undergrowth, largely oak. It is very thick. In 1838 the *Times* Correspondent wrote: "Copse would have been a more suitable expression, as it consists of low hornbeams, which are not sufficiently high to screen a man unless he stoops down among them." The scene of the fight is quite close to the grassy road which has been made through the wood from Bossenden Farm to the modern Courtenay Farm, which stands on the road up which Major Armstrong advanced.

The two parties of the 45th came upon the rioters in the middle of the wood simultaneously. One of Courtenay's followers carried a white flag with a blue border, on which was painted a gold lion rampant. Thinking the white flag was a flag of truce, Major Armstrong rode forward in front of his men, accompanied by Major Handley. Armstrong then saw Bennett advancing towards Courtenay, who held a pistol in his hand. Bennett called on Courtenay to surrender, but the latter shot him dead. A private of the 45th thereupon killed Courtenay. The rioters then made a furious attack with their cudgels, so that the soldiers were obliged to fire in self-defence and afterwards to charge with the bayonet and disperse their enemy. Lieut. Prendergast was severely wounded, while Major Armstrong and several soldiers were injured. Seven of the rioters were killed, in addition to Courtenay, and ten were captured. Seven of the prisoners were wounded, and three of them died within the next few days. Besides the above, an unlucky civilian who was trying to help the constables was killed by the soldiers in mistake. The *Times* Correspondent wrote a few days later: "It is only just to this Regiment,

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which, from its recent return from India, is now composed pretty generally of young recruits, to state that the men ordered out on the occasion conducted themselves with great steadiness and temper, and ceased firing immediately on hearing the signal to that effect. There were not more than 60 shots fired; but by those 60 ten men were killed and as many more wounded."

The killed and wounded were carried to the Red Lion. Lieut. Bennett was placed in a bedroom, while the dead rioters were laid out in a row in the stable. The prisoners were at first confined in an upper room of the inn, and subsequently removed under escort to Faversham Gaol, together with some others who were apprehended later. Lieut. Bennett was on leave, but he happened to be passing through Canterbury when he heard that his Company was ordered out, so he accompanied it. He was buried in the grass-plot within the cloisters of the Cathedral, and a tablet was erected to his memory on the N. wall of the nave. Courtenay was buried in the churchyard of Herne-hill on Friday, June 5th. His body was shown to the reporters so that they could bear witness that the "Messiah" had not risen from the dead, and the grave was watched every night for a fortnight to prevent any attempt at deception by his "disciples." There is nothing to mark the grave.

The deluded followers were dealt with at the Maidstone Assizes on August 9th and 10th. They were treated with great leniency. Only nine were brought to trial, and although they were all found guilty of murder not one was executed. Three were sentenced to transportation, and the remaining six to a year's imprisonment. When passing sentence the judge remarked that he felt justified in displaying such leniency because eleven of the rioters had atoned for their crime with their lives, and he added that he was influenced by the fact that the relatives of Lieut. Bennett had begged that no more blood might be shed.

This tragic affair produced one lasting result. The Archbishop of Canterbury was so shocked that such ignorance and superstition could exist within four miles of his cathedral that a church was forthwith built at Dunkirk, quite close to Bossenden Wood. This was completed in 1841.

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The watch worn by the unlucky Mears at the time of his murder is now in the Museum at Canterbury. Courtenay's flag, his purse, whistle, tobacco-box and sundry other small articles found on his body, and his sword, which was picked up in the wood, are now in the possession of Mrs. Dawes, Mount of Ephraim, which is about two miles from the scene of the affray.

Officers Present at Bossenden

Elliott Armstrong—

Cornet	Cape Corps	March 25, 1823.
Lieutenant	Cape Corps	June 23, 1825.
Captain	h.p.	June 10, 1826.
Captain	45th	November 22, 1827.
Major	45th	February 20, 1835.
Died		June 12, 1840.

James Reid—

Ensign	45th	June 25, 1812.
Lieutenant	45th	March 31, 1814.
Lieutenant	h.p.	March 25, 1817.
Lieutenant	45th	February 12, 1818.
Captain	45th	June 26, 1826.
Retired		May 31, 1839.

(Peninsular War. St. Sebastian, Nivelle, Nive. Medal with 3 Clasps.)

Thomas Prendergast—

Ensign	89th	October 17, 1820.
Lieutenant	89th	April 22, 1825.
Lieutenant	45th	May 15, 1828.
Captain	45th	June 13, 1840.
Captain	17th	September 4, 1840.
Captain	3/W.I.R.	October 1, 1847.
Bt.-Major		November 11, 1851.
Retired full pay		March 26, 1852.

(First Burma War. Capture of Prome. Medal with Clasp.)

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Henry Boswell Bennett—

Ensign .	69th .	March 2, 1826.
Ensign .	45th .	June 14, 1827.
Lieutenant	45th .	April 29, 1832.
Killed .	. .	May 31, 1838.

There seems to be a very prevalent idea that " in the good old days " Officers never left the Regiments which they joined as boys, but served the whole of their time in the one unit. An examination of any old Annual Army List (previous to the abolition of Purchase) will show the absurdity of this idea.

We find that of the four Officers present at Bossenden Wood there was only one (Capt. Reid) who had not belonged to some other regiment before he joined the 45th. The results of the Purchase System are also shown by the fact that Major Armstrong had nearly eleven years less service than Capt. Reid (a Peninsular veteran), two and a half years less than Lieut. Prendergast, and not quite three years more than Lieut. Bennett.

Capt. Reid appears to have been the only Officer or man of the 45th who received the clasp for St. Sebastian. Presumably he must have been attached to some other regiment. As he was not present at Vittoria, he may perhaps have only just landed in the Peninsula and not yet joined the 45th in the field.

Appendix

Evidence given by Major Armstrong at the inquest held at the White Horse Inn, Boughton, on Saturday, June 2nd, 1838, on Lieut. H. B. Bennett. (*Life of Courtenay*, by Canterburiensis, published at Canterbury in 1838.)

" Major Elliott Armstrong being sworn, stated that he was a Major in Her Majesty's 45th Regt. of Infantry, stationed at Canterbury; in pursuance of an order from his Commanding Officer to place himself under the direction of Dr. Poore and other Magistrates he attended with a body of troops consisting of 100 men, with a proportion of Officers and N.C.O.'s; they proceeded from the Barracks of Canterbury on the road towards London, on Thursday the 31st of May last, about 1 o'clock in the afternoon; and having arrived at a

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public-house called the Red Lion, about four miles from Canterbury, he met Dr. Poore, Mr. Knatchbull, and other Magistrates. In consequence of directions he then received, he left the turnpike road, having first divided his party into two divisions; the deceased accompanied Capt. Reid, who had command of one division, and Mr. Knatchbull, a Magistrate; and he (Major Armstrong) left the turnpike road with the other division; he proceeded with his party and Dr. Poore about a mile and a half into the centre of a thick wood; when he got there he observed a body of men, about 50 or 60, make their appearance, with a man at their head answering the description of the person calling himself Courtenay; almost immediately afterwards he saw Lieut. Bennett with his section of military advancing towards the men before alluded to; there was a white flag carried by one of Courtenay's party; Major Handley, who accompanied the military, upon noticing the white flag, said: 'They are coming to parley,' and thereupon he (Major Armstrong) with Major Handley advanced in front of his division; Major Handley then called out to the rioters: 'You misguided and deluded men, are you coming to reason with or speak to us?' but no reply was made; Courtenay turned round to his men and said: 'Come on, follow me,' or words to that effect; at the same time the deceased was advancing rapidly towards Courtenay, and Courtenay quickened his pace towards the deceased; he (Major Armstrong) called out to the deceased to fall back, which he did not do, being then only about four yards from each other; deceased and Courtenay then closed, and almost rushed against each other; deceased raised his right arm, in the act of striking at Courtenay with his sword; Courtenay advancing with a cocked pistol in his hand at the same moment, fired the pistol, the effect of which was that the ball therefrom passed through the body of the deceased, who made another blow or two at Courtenay, and then fell on his back; he (Major Armstrong) then called out to Dr. Poore: 'Am I to fire?' but in consequence of a scream of horror from his men at seeing Mr. Bennett fall, it was impossible for him to hear any reply that might have been given to that question; but his impression was that he had received orders to fire; and, acting under that impression, and his previous orders from the

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Magistrates, he gave the command to fire, which his men instantly obeyed, and fired at Courtenay and his party; the orders which he had previously received from the Magistrates were 'to load with ball cartridge and take Courtenay dead or alive, and as many of his followers as possible'; at that time the men who were with the deceased joined in a division under his (Major Armstrong's) command, and then the men with Courtenay rushed upon the officers and men with bludgeons, making a most resolute attack; indeed, he never saw men evince more determination in his life; he was then compelled to order his men to charge with the bayonet and disperse or take the party prisoners, which was accomplished, and he ordered the bugle to sound 'cease firing,' which was immediately obeyed; the prisoners who were apprehended were given over to the civil power; witness observed that in consequence of the violent attack made by the men with their bludgeons, himself and several of his men were injured; Lieut. Prendergast was knocked down by a bludgeon and beaten severely when down. Major Armstrong expressed his decided opinion, from what he saw, that the civil power could not have apprehended Courtenay or the other persons against whom the Warrants had been issued; he distinctly heard the report of two pistols from Courtenay's party, and he firmly believed that they were both fired by Courtenay himself, and he had reason to believe that a person pointed out to him as Catt was killed by the second pistol fired by Courtenay, he being out of the line of fire of the soldiers; was able to identify one of the persons dead as having attacked and struck him with a bludgeon; he was able to identify William Wills, Stephen Baker, and Thomas Griggs, as being of Courtenay's party, and attacking himself and the men under his command; the two latter were severely wounded; he never saw men more furious or madly determined in their attack."

(The medical evidence conclusively proved that Catt was killed by a musket-ball.)

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XIV

GLEANINGS FROM THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

CAMP,
HEIGHTS OF CHARLESTOWN,
28th Novem^r., 1775.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Barrington,
His Majesty's Secretary at War.

The Memorial of The Honble. Lt.-Colonel Henry Monckton, Commanding His Majesty's 45th Regiment of Foot, in behalf of himself and the Captains of the said Regiment.

Humbly Sheweth

That the late Captain John Mitchell as Paymaster to the 45th Regiment received on its account, a few days before embarkation for America, of the Non-Effective Fund, Arrears and Four Months advanced pay, to the amount of between Two and Three Thousand pounds; His being taken suddenly ill at Corke prevented a Settlement of Accounts at that time, and upon the inspection of his papers after the news of his death, it appears that he has died deficient to the Regiment in different accounts near Five hundred pounds.

That upon leaving Ireland the Regiment was compleated by Drafts, which Drafts have been ordered by Government to be paid for, by stopping the Arrears of the Captains in the hands of the Irish Agent, and they have likewise been obliged to be accountable for the Remainder of Captain Mitchell's debt.

That your Memorialist and the Captains have spared no expence, and have been so extremely anxious to have the Regiment properly Recruited, that not one of them has at any time received the most trifling dividend from the Non-Effective Fund.

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That the late Captain Mitchell had been Paymaster to the Regiment near Thirty years with such a character for Integrity and exactness that there was not the least suspicion of the disorder of his Affairs, and he has left no Fund for making good the deficiency.

Your Memorialist therefore humbly Begs that your Lordships will be pleased to take the case into consideration, and move His Majesty to allow an Ensigncy to be sold, to relieve the Regiment in part, from its present embarrassed circumstances.

All which is Humbly Submitted.

H. MONCKTON,
Lt.-Colo: 45th Regt.

To the Honble. Wm. Howe, Major-Genl. and Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the Colonies on the Coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

The Memorial of Wm. Moore, Captain in the 45th Regiment.

Sheweth

That the Memorialist came into the Army in the year '47, when he paid £350 for a Warrant as Quar.-Master in the 1st Regimt. of Dragoon Guards. That in '56 He Memorialed for a Lieutency in the Corps then raising, and was appointed to the 57th Regiment. That while he remained a Junior Lieutenant five vacant Companies were given to Officers from other Corps. That in '64 He purchased the Capt.-Lieutency. for which he paid £350.

That in '72 he received the Rank of Captain, and in '74 was appointed to a Company in the 45th Regiment.

That altho' he has ever observed the utmost frugality his station could with propriety admitt, yet having a Family he has unavoidably expended in the last fourteen years of his Service, upwards of £870 over and above his Pay &c.: and exclusive of the £700 he paid as above.

That he is in his 58th year, is subject to the Gout and other infirmities, and his sight so much impaired that in night

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dutys, such as going the rounds &c., he is under the necessity of having a Person to support him.

He therefore most humbly requests that in consideration of his long service/28 years at Xmas next/as also of the Circumstances above recited, he may be permitted to dispose of his Commission as a reserve for the support of his family/consisting of a wife and three or four children/ who otherwise must suffer very great distress from the Facts as set forth above.

WM. MOORE.

CAMP,
HEIGHTS OF CHARLESTOWN,
16*th October*, '75.

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XV

LT.-COL. F. TOMLINSON, O.B.E., M.C.

THE departure of Lt.-Col. Tomlinson from Rawalpindi on the 7th April, 1923, caused a great gap in the 2nd Battalion, and all ranks deeply felt the retirement of such an old and respected Forester. They join in wishing him a long and happy period of repose after his life of strenuous work.

Lt.-Col. Tomlinson has been Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion since 1901, having served in the ranks previous to this since 1886. This record of thirty-seven years' continuous service in the Regiment is unique, not only in the Regiment, but in the British Army.

Col. Tomlinson's early years were spent in Nottingham, where he worked as a young man. At the age of eighteen he decided upon the Army as a career, and was attested at Derby: being finally approved for the Derbyshire Regiment by Col. John North Crealock (who then commanded the 45th Regimental District) on 22nd March, 1886. Very soon afterwards he was sent to the 1st Battalion, then at Kilkenny.

In February, 1888, Pte. Tomlinson was one of a draft from the 1st Battalion, who embarked at Queenstown to join the 2nd Battalion in India. The latter was at that time engaged in the Sikkim Campaign, and the draft joined towards the end of the operations.

For the next few years the Battalion occupied several stations in Central India, being successively at Jubbulpore, Umballa and Bareilly. During this time Pte. Tomlinson had risen in the ranks. He was Lance-Corporal in July, 1892, Corporal in January, 1895, and Sergeant the same month. On promotion to Sergeant he was appointed Orderly Room Sergeant. The rapidity of his promotion leaves no doubt as to his capabilities in those early days of his career. His position

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was now one of great responsibility and trust, and that he was worthy of this is proved by his later work for the Battalion.

In 1897 more trouble arose on the Frontier, this time in Tirah. The Battalion, then stationed at Bareilly, was ordered to join the Expedition, and passed through Rawalpindi and Kohat, and thence to Shinawari, where it joined the 1st Brigade on October 8th. The campaign was of a most arduous nature. High latitudes, long marches, shortage of food and bad water caused a great deal of sickness, and at one time almost two-thirds of the Battalion were down with disease. Sergt. Tomlinson had now become Colour-Sergeant, still retaining his appointment, and it is known that throughout this strenuous expedition he never had a day's illness. He took every precaution to prevent anything interfering with his work, and it was in this same spirit that throughout his service he kept himself fit for duty. In 1898 the actions at the two passes, Sampagha and Arhanga were fought, Colour-Sergt. Tomlinson being present at both engagements, and shortly afterwards came the close of the campaign. The Indian medal with two clasps was awarded for these operations.

From November, 1898, until the following October the Battalion served at Aden, and then went to Malta, where it remained until May, 1902.

During the stay of the Battalion at Malta, Colour-Sergt. Tomlinson obtained a First Class Army School Certificate with very high marks. This was a rare achievement in those days and qualified him for his subsequent promotion to commissioned rank. In February, 1901, the *London Gazette* announced his commission as Quartermaster with the honorary rank of Lieutenant. To have earned promotion from the ranks with less than fifteen years' service was no small achievement. This had only been accomplished by hard work and a devotion to duty that can hardly be surpassed.

The Battalion landed in England in May, 1902, after being eighteen years abroad. It was stationed successively at Parkhurst, Aldershot, Kinsale, Fermoy, Plymouth and Sheffield.

In 1911 Lieut. Tomlinson was granted Honorary Captain's rank and received the Coronation medal.

In August, 1914, the Battalion was stationed at Hills-

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borough Barracks, Sheffield. Like a thunderbolt came the order for Mobilization. The movement was carried out with enormous rapidity, the Quartermaster having no little share in its success. Embarkation was but a few weeks later, and on September 7th the Battalion landed in France with the 6th Division. Throughout the whole period of the war the Quartermaster remained on the Western Front with the 2nd Battalion. His work now assumed a greater responsibility; the duties of Regimental Transport Officer were added to those of Quartermaster. However, he performed the double task with such credit that before long the Regimental Transport became the finest in the Brigade, and at an inspection of Brigade Transport at Armentières by Brig.-Gen. Congreve, V.C., other Units were called upon to take the turn-out of the 2nd Battalion as a pattern. He was always more than equal to great tasks and his duties were performed with a steady, unobtrusive devotion.

The tributes of his work may be seen in his war record, which is an excellent one. The rank of Major was granted in 1916, after fifteen years' commissioned service. He won the Military Cross for distinguished service in the field. He was three times mentioned in despatches, once in 1915 and twice in 1917. Then came the Armistice and the march to the Rhine. Major Tomlinson eventually reached home in February, 1919, and proceeded on two months' hard-earned leave.

When the news came that the 2nd Battalion would shortly be ordered to embark on another tour of foreign service, the necessary reconstruction entailed more work than can ever be realised. Much of this falls upon the Quartermaster. Again came a stupendous task to be done at short notice. The turn-out and efficiency of the Battalion as it left Clipstone in August, 1919, en route for Egypt, left no doubt as to its fulfilment.

In Egypt the Battalion had a wonderful reputation, and the New Year's Honours List of 1920 paid a tribute to the Battalion by the award of the O.B.E. to Major Tomlinson for his long and distinguished service in the Army.

The following year Major Tomlinson was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel. This was a rank that had never been

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LIEUT.-COL. F. TOMLINSON, O.B.E., M.C.

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attained before the war by the Quartermasters of the Army, and to be thus singled out was indeed an honour.

In April, 1922, the Battalion, which was then stationed at Cairo, was ordered to Constantinople. Here came a small taste of field service, for during the brief stay in that Command, the Battalion moved from its Camp, firstly in August against the Greeks, who were threatening Constantinople from the West, and secondly against the Kemalist Army, which was threatening Chanak from the East. During that most trying time in the autumn of 1922 the constant moves by land and sea threw a burden on the Quartermaster's Department which only a man of Lt.-Col. Tomlinson's ripe experience and unflinching devotion could have successfully borne. It earned more praise for the Regiment in the shape of a personal letter of thanks to the Commanding Officer from Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Harington, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O. At Chanak the Battalion embarked for India. The move was sudden, and as we were on a war footing in Turkey, a further reconstruction had to take place when we arrived in India. Col. Tomlinson, although near the date of his retirement, never for one minute slowed up in his work. On the contrary he worked harder, and as the day drew near for his departure he failed to realise what it meant. He worked up to the last moment, and when the time came to lay down his tools it was too much, and the wrench almost broke his heart.

His work for the 2nd Battalion will never be forgotten in our day, and his name will go down in the annals of our Regiment along with many other distinguished names. The gap he has left can never be filled by one man alone.

Apart from his onerous duties of Quartermaster, he was the President of the Quarterly Audit Board and Secretary of the Battalion Savings Association. In fact any work that could be done to benefit the Battalion he imposed upon himself as a duty.

Col. Tomlinson was an indefatigable worker. Work was an honourable thing to him. Quiet and modest in personality, regular and methodical of habit, trustworthy as an Officer, and inspiring to his subordinates: these are the qualities that helped him in his uphill fight to success.

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Perhaps the greatest tribute one could pay him would be to say that for the last thirty-seven years the history of Colonel Tomlinson has been the history of the 2nd Battalion.

The following is the record of service of Lt.-Col. Tomlinson since enlistment :—

Attested at Derby and finally approved for the Derbyshire Regiment by Col. John North Crealock, C.B., Commanding 45th Regimental District, 22.3.86.

Posted to 1st Battalion at Kilkenny, 8.4.86.

Posted to 2nd Battalion and embarked on H.M.T. *Malabar* at Queenstown, 24.2.88.

Disembarked at Bombay. 21.3.88.

Joined 2nd Battalion at Dum Dum, 4.4.88.

Served with the Battalion in the Sikkim Expedition, 1888, and the Tirah Expedition, 1897–8; and throughout the remainder of its tour in India.

STATIONS

Jubbulpore, Saugor C.P., Umballa, Solon, Sitapur and Bareilly. Served with the Battalion at Aden, Crater Position, November, 1898, to October, 1899. At Malta, Imtarfa, October, 1899, to May, 1902.

Disembarked at Southampton ex s.s. *Carthage*, 29.5.02.

Served with the Battalion at Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, Aldershot, Kinsale, Fermoy, Crownhill (Plymouth) and Sheffield.

Mobilized for the Great War on 4th August, 1914; served throughout the war with the 2nd Battalion in the 6th Division.

Took part in the march to the Rhine. Served at Bruhl and Cologne till ordered home on two months' leave. 14.2.19.

Joined nucleus of Battalion at Clipstone Camp, 15.4.19.

Proceeded with Battalion to Egypt via Dover, Boulogne and Marseilles, 22.8.19.

Served at Alexandria and Cairo from 4th September, 1919, to 26th April, 1922.

Served with the Battalion in Asiatic Turkey, Thrace, and at Chanak, Dardanelles, April to October, 1922.

Embarked at Chanak for India, 23.10.22.

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Disembarked at Karachi, 8.11.22.
Stationed at Rawalpindi.
Placed on Retired Pay, 21.3.23.
Left the Battalion, 7.4.23.
Embarked at Bombay, 11.4.23.
Disembarked at Southampton, 15.5.23.

MEDALS AND DECORATIONS

India Medal of 1895 with 2 Clasps.
1914 Star and Clasp.
British War Medal.
Victory Medal.
Military Cross.
Order of British Empire.
King George's Coronation Medal.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Appointed Lance-Corporal, 14.7.92.
Promoted Corporal, 5.1.95.
Promoted Sergeant, 25.1.95.
Appointed Orderly Room Sergeant, 25.1.95.
Promoted Colour-Sergeant (O.R.S.), 25.1.98.
Promoted Quartermaster-Sergeant (O.R.S.), 25.1.01.
Promoted Quartermaster with the honorary rank of Lieutenant, 20.2.01.
Granted the honorary rank of Captain, 20.2.11.
Granted the rank of Major, 20.2.16.
Granted the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, 15.8.21.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

London Gazette, dated 2nd June, 1915.
London Gazette, dated 25th May, 1917.
London Gazette, dated 21st December, 1917.

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XVI

THE LATE LT.-COL. JOHN CAMPBELL

IT gives us very great pleasure to present to our readers in this issue of the *Regimental Annual* the portrait of one who served upwards of thirty years in the 95th Regiment, who then went to the 36th Foot, where he soldiered with the late Lt.-Col. T. M. Maxwell, and who, when he finally retired, had completed fifty years' service from enlisted boy to Lieutenant-Colonel. John Campbell must have joined the 95th Regiment in 1837, in Ireland, as a boy of fourteen, and he had already completed some seventeen years' service as boy, private soldier and non-commissioned officer, when the Crimean War broke out, and then, on the 7th April, 1854, he was promoted Quartermaster from Quartermaster-Sergeant *vice* Holt, who had held that office for some fourteen years and had himself succeeded Feneran, an old Waterloo man. Campbell served all through the Crimean War with the 95th : its records tell us that he was one of only three officers and eighty-nine Other Ranks who served uninterruptedly throughout the campaign without a day's absence. He came home with the Regiment and then went with it to India and served all through the campaign in Central India.

One who has written his share of the story of our 2nd Battalion very sincerely regrets that he never had an opportunity of meeting this very fine old soldier and of hearing from him of the life of the Regiment in Ceylon, Hongkong and India, for he must have had much that was of interest to tell.

It was he who helped to carry Ensign Boothby off the field after the Alma, and who remembered that when amputation of Boothby's leg was decided on and no anæsthetics were available, Boothby asked for his pipe, and biting hard on the stem, watched the operation with almost a detached interest. Campbell had another story of the 95th in India, when

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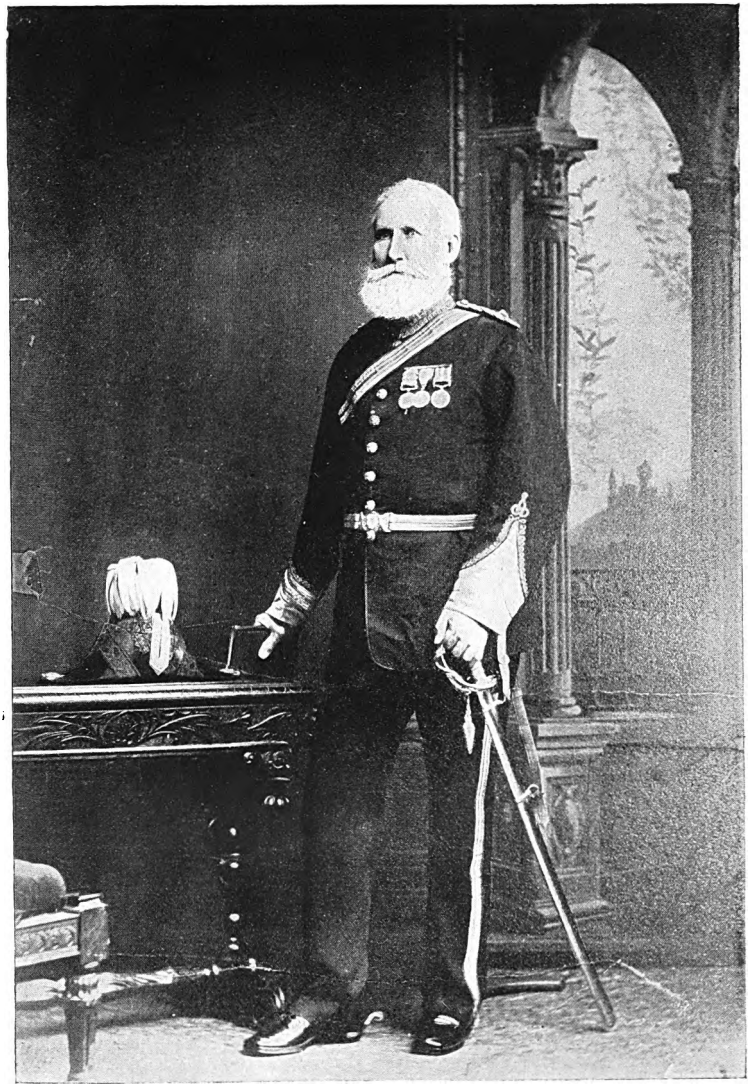

THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. J. CAMPBELL, 95TH REGT. AND A.P.D.

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Bt.-Lt.-Col. Massey, afterwards Lord Clarina, was in temporary command. One day Massey received an anonymous letter containing the information that the writer intended to shoot him next time he came on parade! Campbell and the Adjutant were consulted as to the authorship of this cheerful epistle, and all three came to the conclusion that there was only one man in the Regiment who could have written it—and Massey ordered a "strong as possible" parade for the next morning!

The company inspections concluded, Massey dismissed the officers, formed line and rode out to the front: here he read out the letter and invited the writer to shoot "and be damned to him"!

There was no ball practice that morning!

In those days a Quartermaster had few prospects of advancement; he did not even hold any Army rank; and from the year 1862 onwards Campbell began to take steps to obtain an appointment as regimental paymaster. His applications were strongly supported both by Massey and by Col. Thesiger (afterwards Lord Chelmsford), the former even writing direct to the Secretary of State for War on behalf of one, of whom he said: "I have no hesitation in saying that I do not possess a friend in the world for whom I entertain a greater respect or regard, as I never met a more thoroughly straightforward, honourable man, and if I required sound advice on any subject connected with military duty there is no officer in the Regiment I would sooner consult. . . . There is no officer in the Regiment more universally respected by all ranks."

In October, 1867, Col. Thesiger wrote from home saying he had succeeded in obtaining for Campbell a paymastership: "I cannot tell you how delighted I am. . . . Whilst congratulating you upon your good fortune, however, I cannot lose sight of the irreparable loss which the 95th are about to sustain in losing so old and valued a friend as yourself."

John Campbell was appointed Captain and Paymaster in the 36th, 22nd February, 1868, became Major in February 1878, and Staff Paymaster and Lieutenant-Colonel in December, 1880, after which he served with the 11th Brigade Depot and 4th Regimental District at Lancaster.

Colonel Campbell married the only daughter of his pre-

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decessor as Quartermaster of the 95th, Captain W. Holt, and left a widow, a son, and three daughters, of whom the son and two daughters survive. The eldest daughter married the eldest son of the late Major W. Ashfield, Bombay Staff Corps, and formerly of the 95th Regiment. The family have retained many letters and photographs of old officers of the Regiment, and its members have preserved to this day a very real affection for and interest in the Regiment to which Colonel Campbell gave the best years of his life.

The "Annual" for 1909 contained an account of the 95th at Hongkong in the 'Forties, and it was therein stated that when, on the 1st March, 1850, the Regiment left Hongkong for home there embarked 15 officers, 4 officers' wives, 4 officers' children and 450 sergeants, rank and file. These figures are now added to and in some cases amended from a statement in the late Colonel Campbell's handwriting to the following effect :—

"Numbers embarked: 1 field officer, 3 captains, 8 subalterns, 5 staff, 30 sergeants, 24 corporals, 4 drummers, 396 privates, 4 officers' wives, 7 officers' children, 23 soldiers' wives and 30 soldiers' children.

"Alterations during voyage: deaths in Regiment 59 (1 drowned), 3 children; 1 child born on voyage; of the 59, 6 were sergeants, 1 was a corporal and 52 were privates.

"Left at the Cape: sick, 1 clr.-sergeant, 1 corporal, 17 privates; also 3 women and 5 children: deserted 13 privates.

"Embarked at Hongkong 1st March, 1850; sailed 3rd March; reached Anjer, in the Straits of Sunda, 24th March; left again 27th; arrived at the Cape of Good Hope 8th May; landed 10th, re-embarked 27th, sailed 29th; touched at St. Helena on 15th June, finally arriving at Portsmouth on the 7th August—a pleasant little trip of over five months! Of the Regiment there disembarked 17 officers, 24 sergeants, 23 corporals, 4 drummers, 312 privates, 4 officers' wives, 7 officers' children, 20 soldiers' wives and 23 soldiers' children."

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XVII

RECIPIENTS OF THE "AVA" MEDAL

45TH FOOT

OFFICERS

Lt. and Adjt.	Reid, James.
Lieut.	Bell, George.
,,	Elliott, Rich. Charles.
,,	Lascelles, Edmund W.
,,	Sedley, Anthony G.
Ensign.	Coke, E. T.
,,	Duvernet, John F.
,,	Harrison, John.
Ensign.	Hodgson, Studholm.
,,	Lewis, R.
,,	Stanford, Sir Robert.
Qmr.	Wallis, Samuel.
Surgeon.	Smyth, Wm.
Asst.-Surg.	Paterson, James, M.D.

OTHER RANKS

Private.	Alexander, Levi.
,,	Baker, Thos.
,,	Beecroft, Samuel.
,,	Belcher, John.
,,	Boulton, Wm.
,,	Bowyer, John.
,,	Breadon, John.
,,	Bridgeford, John
,,	Browne, John.
,,	Buxton, Wm.
,,	Carr, John.
,,	Carrick, Henry.
,,	Collins, John.
,,	Conlin, John.
,,	Conlon, James.
Drummer.	Conroy, John.
Private.	Coyle, Philip.
Private.	Dalton, Wm.
,,	Daykin, George.
,,	Dix Henry.
,,	Dixon, Robt.
,,	Dolan, Daniel.
Clr.-Sergt.	Dunne, Wm.
Private.	Eagles, Wm.
,,	Fairhurst, Wm.
,,	Farroll, Thos.
Sergeant.	Faulkner, Richard.
Private.	Featherstone, Bairy.
Bugler.	Fincher, Isaac.
Private.	Finnerty, Patrick.
,,	Flynn, Charles.
,,	Gatliffe, Richard.
Sergeant.	Gilcriest, John.

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Private.	Glenn, Robt.
Drummer.	Griffiths, Thos.
Private.	Harris, Richard.
,,	Harris, Wm.
,,	Hartley, John.
Sgt.-Pym.	Harwood, Daniel.
Sergeant.	Hill, Edward.
Private.	Henson, Wm.
,,	Hill, Wm.
,,	Holmes, Abraham.
,,	Hopkinson, Thos.
,,	Horn, Thomas.
,,	Issitt, Thos.
,,	Jackson, Wm.
,,	Jakeman, Wm. C.
,,	Kean, Roger.
Sergeant.	Kaddin, James.
Corporal.	Kearney, Patrick.
Private.	Kelly, Patrick.
,,	Kelly, James.
,,	Kelly, John.
,,	Kirkham, Wm.
,,	Lidy, John.
Drummer.	Mackey, John.
Private.	Marshall, John.
,,	Martin, Wm.
,,	McAdams, Robert.
,,	McCoy, John.
,,	McGuinness, Thos. (McGuines in W.O. roll).
,,	Miles, John.
,,	Mulcaster, Robert.
,,	Murphy, Patrick.
,,	Murphy, Patrick.
,,	Newbold, Ed.
,,	O'Connor, Patrick.
,,	Pain, John.
,,	Parker, John.
,,	Parker, Jonathan.
Private.	Parsons, Henry.
,,	Peters, Wm.
,,	Piggin, George.
,,	Poulton, James.
Sergeant.	Preese, John
Private.	Preston, Samuel.
,,	Priestly, Benj. (Priestley in W.O. roll).
,,	Quinn, Wm.
Drummer.	Randell, Thos.
Private.	Reed, George.
,,	Reed, John.
,,	Revell, Charles.
,,	Ross, Alex.
,,	Ruston, Samuel.
,,	Salt, John.
,,	Scannell, Michael.
,,	Smith, Samuel.
,,	Stopforth, James.
,,	Stanley, Wm.
Sergeant.	Smith, Wm.
Corporal.	Sharples, John.
Private.	Shipman, Thos.
,,	Stafford, James.
Sergeant.	Swinscoe, Samuel.
Private.	Thorpe, Matthew.
Corporal.	Treanor, John.
Private.	Turton, Thos.
,,	Walmsley, John.
,,	Warren, James.
,,	Whitt, Samuel. (Jonathan in W.O. roll).
Sergeant.	Whittan, Robert.
Private.	Woodside, Francis.
,,	Worton, Thos.
,,	Wright, Wm.
Corporal.	Wright, James.

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This roll of the Officers and Other Ranks of the 45th Foot who received the "Army of India Medal" with clasp "Ava" was transcribed by Lt.-Col. D. A. Hailes, late Royal Marines, from the Medal Rolls in the India Office and War Office. Lieut. A. G. Sedley served in the Peninsular War as a Lieutenant in the 23rd Foot, and received the medal with clasps for Salamanca, Vittoria and St. Sebastian. Surgeon W. Smyth was with the 28th Foot at Busaco and Albuhera, and with the 45th at the Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes and Toulouse. He received the medal with seven clasps.

W. H. W.

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XVIII

2ND BATTALION MEMORIAL IN ALEXANDRIA

THOSE who served in Egypt recently with the 2nd Battalion will be glad to read the following correspondence describing the unveiling of a memorial on Sunday, April 8th, 1923, to those of the Battalion who died during its recent tour in Egypt; and all our Regiment will be grateful indeed to those members of the British community and garrison who joined in paying honours to our Dead.

Extract from a letter received from Major H. F. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O., late the Sherwood Foresters:—

126 RUE THEBES,
SIDI GABER,
ALEXANDRIA,
9th April, 1923.

"Yesterday I unveiled a Memorial Tablet at the Garrison Church, Mustapha, to Men and Children belonging to the 2nd Battalion who died during our tour in Egypt. It was quite a short ceremony held after the Parade Service, but a number of people who knew us well came to it. The Drums of the Hampshire Regiment sounded the Last Post and Réveillé at the conclusion of two Prayers of Dedication. Colonel-Commandant Braithwaite, and Lt.-Col. Andrews, Commanding Hampshire Regiment, were present, and one old Forester, ex-Corpl. Tomlinson. There were two more in Alexandria but they could not be present.

"The Chaplain, the Rev. B. K. Bond, and Col. Andrews arranged that the Collection made at the Parade Service should be given to the Old Comrades' Association, and the enclosed cheque, value £2 14s. 6d., was handed to me to give to you.

"The Chaplain had a brother killed whilst serving with the 11th Battalion in 1916."

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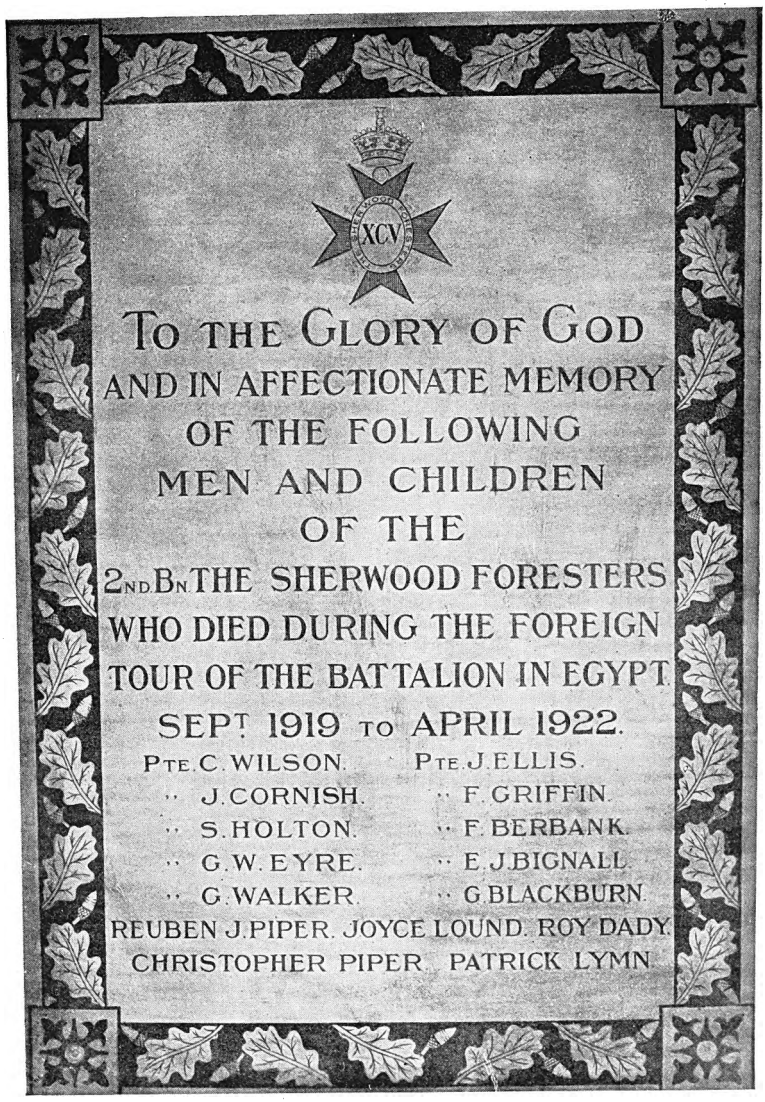

EGYPT MEMORIAL TO 2ND BATTALION

Facing p. 142

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BRITISH CEMETERY, VEVEY, SWITZERLAND

Facing p. 143

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
GIBRALTAR,
23rd April, 1923.

DEAR COLONEL BRAITHWAITE,—

I have just received an account of the unveiling of the tablet to the memory of those of the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters who died during the tour of that Battalion in Egypt, 1919–22, at Alexandria, from Major H. F. Watson.

He speaks gratefully of your help and of your being present at the ceremony, and, further, of the kindness of Colonel Andrews of the Hampshire Regiment, and of the Chaplain, the Reverend B. K. Bond, the former for allowing the Buglers of his Battalion to sound the "Last Post" and the "Réveillé," which he says was perfectly performed, and both of them for arranging that the offertory collected at the service should go to the Old Comrades' Association of the Sherwood Foresters.

Permit me as Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters to express my warm thanks to you and to ask you to convey to Colonel Andrews and the Reverend B. K. Bond my appreciation of their kindness.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
(*Sd*) H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN.

HEADQUARTERS,
ALEXANDRIA BRIGADE,
10th May, 1923.

MY DEAR GENERAL,—

It was exceedingly kind of you to write about the unveiling of the Tablet to the Sherwood Foresters. It gave us all great pleasure to help in any way, and it was particularly fortunate that we have Major Watson living here and able to perform the ceremony. I have made Colonel Andrews, of the Hampshire Regiment, and the Rev. B. K. Bond acquainted with the contents of your letter, and they are both very grateful to you for writing. When I came here in 1921 I was very fortunate in finding the 2nd Battalion of your Regiment in Alexandria. They left a great reputation behind in Egypt. I frequently hear from several of them from

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Pindi; I believe that several of them prefer Egypt to India. Their football and cricket teams won everything here.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

W. G. BRAITHWAITE.

You may remember me as Brigade-Major at Krugersdorp to General Barton when you had a fight in the Hekpoort Valley with the 75th Battery and the Gordons.

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XIX

"OWEN"

THERE must be many of us, mostly on the Retired List, who remember well Owen Stokes, who joined the 2nd Battalion at Athlone about the end of 1878 and served with it at the Curragh, in Aldershot, Gibraltar, Egypt and India, retiring from the Service just as the Battalion left Lucknow for the big manœuvres of 1885–6 in the Delhi District. He made his way to Burma and there settled down on the staff of the *Rangoon Times*, and there the rest of his life was spent, for he died in Burma in March, 1923. "Owen" had no single enemy, and a host of friends who would have been glad to meet him again and talk over old times; and it is pleasant to see from the following obituary notice, taken from the *Rangoon Times*, that those among whom his life since he left us was passed, appreciated his friendship and his many good qualities even as those of the 2nd Battalion did :—

Frederick Owen Lloyd Stokes

AN APPRECIATION

(By one who knew him)

There are very few of the present generation—the post-war influx into Burma—who can claim even a nodding acquaintance with one of the finest and most lovable characters in Burma whom death has just claimed. But the older inhabitants of this Province have most of them at some time or another met Frederick Owen Lloyd Stokes, to meet whom was to be charmed by his old-world courtliness of manner. My first encounter with him was in 1912. I had arrived in the middle of the monsoon, quite green to Burma, and after being introduced at the now defunct Burma Club to some of the old stagers of the Province, was taken across to the

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Rangoon Times Office, there to be introduced to "dear old Stokes." Then followed a trip to his bungalow at the other side of the Royal Lakes *via* the switchback on the east of the Lakes, his favourite view of Rangoon, and after tea a lazy stretch in a sleeve chair on the verandah of the bungalow. Then followed questions, and the delight of Stokes at finding I came from a neighbouring Welsh county to his was unbounded. Thus we started a bond of friendship only broken by his death on Saturday at Kalaw.

The late Mr. Stokes was a member of one of the oldest of the Welsh county families—the Stokes of St. Botolph's, whose squiredom extended along the shores of St. Bride's Bay in Pembrokeshire. His heart was always in West Wales, and his knowledge of the landed gentry of West Wales was almost encyclopædic, in spite of the fact that when he left England at the head of his Company of Sherwood Foresters in 1881 it was the last he was ever to see of England. Needless to say he was a Tory of the old school, intolerant of all modern movements in politics. Liberalism was anathema to him, and the Labour movement the beginning of the end for Great Britain. I soon found this out, and political discussions became taboo between us.

Never would I allow myself to be drawn into a political discussion with Stokes, and it is to this truce can be ascribed the long-standing friendship, although the temptations were many. Ireland and Home Rule were to him the proverbial red rag to a bull. His excellencies were many; a raconteur, with a marvellous memory, he would entertain a whole household after dinner with story after story, all in the best of taste and in humorous vein. His versatility was remarkable whether in sport, the classics, military lore, or incidents of old Burma—the Burma of Theebaw's time—and my one regret is that I did not act as Boswell to his Johnson, as his well-told reminiscences would have filled volumes and would have constituted a valuable collection. Where dear old Stokes excelled was in his charming old-world courtesy to the fair sex. He was always courtliness personified, and his charm of manner will be remembered by all who came in contact with him.

Born in Pembrokeshire, sixty-five years ago, on his father's

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domains at St. Botolph's, he rode to hounds at a very early age; but owing to indifferent health the intention to send him to Harrow was changed, and after private tuition he went to Tonbridge School preparatory to entering Sandhurst. From Sandhurst he was gazetted to the Notts and Derby Regiment (the Sherwood Foresters) and with them he left for Egypt, being stationed at Alexandria at the time of the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir. Then he moved with his regiment to India, and while in Lucknow he was a junior subaltern to the present General Smith-Dorrien. At Lucknow he was a keen polo player, until he sustained an accident at polo which gave him the permanent stoop which thereafter characterised him. His stay in the Army was short-lived. High-spirited and quick-tempered, for reasons which are not germane to this article but which he once disclosed to me, he resigned the Army and came across to Burma just before General Prendergast's expedition to Upper Burma. More or less at a loose end at the time, he at length became acquainted with the late Mr. O'Brien, who then owned the *Rangoon Times*, and was taken on as a journalist on this paper during the stirring times of the pacification of Upper Burma. To be a journalist in those days was no sinecure, but he threw himself heart and soul into the work, and was trusted by the military and officials in Burma. He never betrayed a confidence, and rendered yeoman service for many years to his paper, his employer never having a more faithful and loyal servant.

A lover of horses and dogs, there was no better judge of the points of a horse than Stokes, and his knowledge of sport, equestrian and otherwise, was nothing short of marvellous. For some years he made an invaluable secretary and adviser to the old Rangoon Race Club and was a familiar figure at Rangoon and *mofussil* race meetings. He is credited with having compiled the early racing calendars of the Race Club and as he was always a stickler for correct racing terminology, his reports of the Rangoon race meetings were worth reading. He criticised mercilessly but honestly when criticism was needed; and his criticism in matters of sport was invariably constructive. He was an invaluable adjunct to sport in Burma. But it was in his knowledge of *Ruff's Guide* that Stokes excelled. He prized the long row of olive-green books as if they were his

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children, this intimate knowledge of home racing records being apparent when the brief *Reuter's* results of races were cabled through. To him an "unextended" cable of a "classic" result at home was a crime, and he would never allow a race result to appear without the full pedigree of the winner and placed animals, and a history of their past achievements, together with the records of previous winners. As a Sporting Editor he was therefore past unique, for his knowledge did not stop at *Ruff*: it embraced the whole library of *Wisden*, and the records of running, and athletic sports. How he stored in his mind such a host of data was always a wonder to me; he never suffered from "Burma head." I remember on one occasion misquoting a line from Virgil, Book V: Stokes rose in his wrath and scorned me to silence by reciting twelve lines of Virgil containing the misquoted line correctly quoted. Of late years he suffered from failing sight, but many will recall the familiar figure going nightly homewards in a ticca-gharry with his face close up to a book. He spent half his day in reading, and his considerable library, which he treasured, was a striking testimony to his extreme catholicity of tastes and wide reading. Every one of his books was well thumbed and treasured, and he was never happier than when nightfall came and he could slip into his pyjamas, lie at full length in the sleeve chair, with his beloved volumes at hand, smoking an eternal cheroot which he could never keep alight. His consumption of Burma cheroots was always the subject of joking: he was never without a smoke, yet never could I remember the dear old man smoke more than a quarter of any cheroot he took up.

As a billiard player he was a factor to be reckoned with in his earlier days, and even in later years could put up a wonderful game. His failing sight bothered him greatly when difficult shots had to be tackled, and the meticulous care with which he polished and adjusted his thick monocle before doing a difficult shot with the "jigger" bespoke keenness and accuracy. Latterly an active and well-filled life in the tropics took a severe toll of him and he aged very rapidly. He spoke to me many times of a longing to see Pembrokeshire once again. It was easy to see where his heart inclined, but he coupled with it the refrain: "What's the use. I'm too old.

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The old faces are all gone," and although he was on numerous occasions implored by the proprietors to take a trip to the homeland he refused to undertake the journey. His friends will always treasure the memory of " dear old Stokes " with the kindliest of thoughts. Kalaw has seen the passing of a gentleman of the old type, a true sportsman, a wonderful raconteur—in fact an exemplar of all that is best in the old Sahib-log who have built up the Indian Empire.

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XX

Obituary

WE take the following from a London paper of November last :—

PRINCE AND HERO'S SWORD

RELIC HE BROUGHT FROM CANADA TO LIE BESIDE THE LAMP OF REMEMBRANCE

The Prince of Wales has brought back from Canada the sword of Edmund Street, which he will place beside the Lamp of Remembrance at All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower, during the anniversary celebrations of Toc H on December 15th.

" Edmund Street," the Rev. P. B. Clayton, of Toc H, explained to-day, " was one of the first officers to serve the first Talbot House. He was born of an old loyalist family in South Ontario.

" He was in the Army before the war, but had to retire on account of ill-health. He succeeded in rejoining the Sherwoods in August, 1914, and was with them in France from the first, a quiet and indomitable invalid, until his death, when second in command, on the Somme in 1916.

" His courage was as high as his mind was humble. From subaltern to drummer-boy, lives were inspired by his friendship."

It will be remembered that Major Street was killed on the Somme when second in command of our 2nd Battalion.

Death has during this year that is past removed two ex-commanding officers of the 1st and a very distinguished old soldier of the 2nd Battalion.

On the 13th June there died at Plymouth Major-General

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John Ingle Preston, late Sherwood Foresters, and son of the late General William R. Preston, also of the Regiment. Major-General J. I. Preston did all his regimental service in the 45th, purchasing an ensigncy in that corps on the 16th June, 1854, and obtaining his lieutenancy and company, also by purchase, on the 15th February, 1856, and the 26th November, 1861. He obtained his majority on the 12th February, 1873, became lieutenant-colonel commanding the 45th Regiment on the 4th August, 1875, retiring with the honorary rank of major-general five years later. He served with the 45th in Abyssinia in 1868, and was present at the storming and capture of Magdala, receiving the medal.

His father, William R. Preston, was not originally a Forester, having obtained his first commission as second lieutenant in the 87th Fusiliers on the 24th September, 1829; he became lieutenant on the 22nd February, 1833, and then, rather more than a year later, exchanged to the 22nd Foot, in which he became captain on the 18th October, 1839, being gazetted in the same rank to the 45th on the 5th January, 1841. He was promoted major in July, 1848; brevet lieutenant-colonel in February, 1855; substantive lieutenant-colonel in May, 1861; brevet colonel in July, 1860; major-general in March, 1868; and lieutenant-general in October, 1877. He had no war service.

On the 19th December, 1923, there died in London, in his eighty-third year, Colonel Henry Hodson Hooke, the whole of whose regimental life was passed in our 1st Battalion, which he joined as an ensign in August, 1858; he became a lieutenant in September, 1861, and having been promoted captain in October, 1867, accompanied the 45th to Abyssinia, and took part with it in the campaign of the year following. He was promoted to field rank in July, 1881, and commanded the Battalion from the 21st July, 1885, to the 28th August, 1890, when he was appointed to the command of the 45th Regimental District at Derby. He was promoted colonel in July, 1889, and was placed on half-pay on the 28th August, 1895, retiring shortly afterwards.

His funeral took place in London on the 24th December, and was attended by the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O.; by

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Colonel H. C. Wylly, C.B.; and by Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., representing the 1st Battalion.

Captain Thomas Griffin, a very distinguished old soldier of the Regiment, died at Bangalore on the 24th March, 1923, in his sixty-third year. He enlisted for the 95th Regiment at Derby on the 21st June, 1879, and served with the Battalion at the Curragh Camp, Aldershot, Gibraltar, and in Egypt during the campaign of 1882; medal and star.

He went with the Battalion to India, and for a time was employed as sergeant-instructor with the Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles at Kurseong. He rejoined at Jubbulpore in 1889, and was promoted colour-sergeant of G Company.

In November, 1894, he returned to England on being posted as colour-sergeant-instructor to a Volunteer Battalion of the Regiment. Later he was posted to the 1st Battalion and promoted regimental quartermaster-sergeant. He went with it to Malta, and thence to South Africa in October, 1899. Was invalided and discharged to pension in 1900; Queen's medal.

After a stay of several years in England he returned to India to take up employment, and became quartermaster of his old Volunteer Regiment, the Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles.

During the Great War he was taken into the Q.M.G.'s Dept. at Fort William, Calcutta, and was given a commission as lieutenant in the Indian Army. He served in Mesopotamia; 1914–15 Star, British War and Victory medals. He also served in the Indian Ordnance Dept. on the N.W. Frontier during the Afghan War, and rose to the rank of captain; medal and clasp.

Was also in possession of the medal for long service and good conduct, and the Durbar medal.

Captain Griffin was largely responsible for the creation of our Old Comrades' Association, for it was he who, some six or seven years before the outbreak of the war, wrote to the Colonel of the Regiment, suggesting that we should follow the example of some other regiments and form an Old Comrades' Association. It must have been a real pleasure to him to see how the Association has prospered, and what a very living thing for good it has become.

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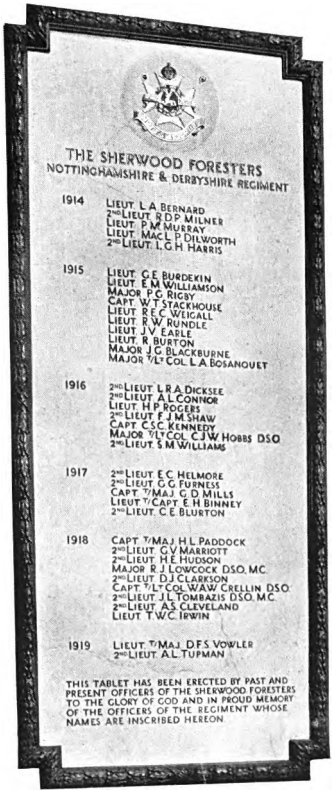
CAPT. GRIFFIN


THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT
1914
LIEUT. L.A. BERNARD
2ND LIEUT. R.D.P. MILNER
LIEUT. P.M. MURRAY
LIEUT. MAC.L.P. DILWORTH
2ND LIEUT. L.G.H. HARRIS
1915
LIEUT. G.E. BURDEKIN
LIEUT. E.M. WILLIAMSON
MAJOR P.G. RIGBY
CAPT. W.T. STACKHOUSE
LIEUT. R.E.C. WEIGALL
LIEUT. R.W. RUNDLE
LIEUT. J.V. EARLE
LIEUT. R. BURTON
MAJOR J.G. BLACKBURNE
MAJOR T/LT-COL. L.A. BOSANQUET
1916
2ND LIEUT. L.R.A. DICKSEE
2ND LIEUT. A.L. CONNOR
LIEUT. H.P. ROGERS
2ND LIEUT. F.J.M. SHAW
CAPT. C.S.C. KENNEDY
MAJOR T/LT-COL. C.J.W. HOBBS D.S.O.
2ND LIEUT. S.M. WILLIAMS
1917
2ND LIEUT. E.C. HELMORE
2ND LIEUT. G.G. FURNESS
CAPT. T/MAJ. G.D. MILLS
LIEUT. T/CAPT. E.H. BINNEY
2ND LIEUT. C.E. BLURTON
1918
CAPT. T/MAJ. H.L. PADDOCK
2ND LIEUT. G.V. MARRIOTT
2ND LIEUT. H.E. HUDSON
MAJOR R.J. LOWCOCK D.S.O. M.C.
2ND LIEUT. D.J.C. CLARKSON
CAPT. T/LT-COL. W.A.W. CRELLIN D.S.O.
2ND LIEUT. J.L. TOMBAZIS D.S.O. M.C.
2ND LIEUT. A.S. CLEVELAND
LIEUT. T.W.C. IRWIN
1919
LIEUT. T/MAJ. D.F.S. VOWLER
2ND LIEUT. A.L. TUPMAN
THIS TABLET HAS BEEN ERECTED BY PAST AND PRESENT OFFICERS OF THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN PROUD MEMORY OF THE OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT WHOSE NAMES ARE INSCRIBED HEREON.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL
R. M. C. CHAPEL

facing p. 152

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AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

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XXI

WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?

FOR the location of some of the Old Comrades in this "Annual" I have to thank Major H. F. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O., for his kindness in assisting me with particulars. I should be very glad if any Old Comrades who are aware of the location of any that I have missed would write me at Normanton Barracks, or give me their particulars at the next Annual Dinner at Derby.

T. P. THOMPSON,
O.R.Q.M.Sgt.

The following changes have taken place in the Depot Staff during the past year :—

R.S.M. Peterkin, W. (M.C.)	Discharged to pension and now employed with the London General Omnibus Coy. as Inspector.
R.Q.M.S. Parker, L.	Promoted W.O., Class 1, and appointed R.S.M. *vice* Peterkin.
R.Q.M.S. Cranage, J.	From 1st Battn. Posted to Depot as R.Q.M.S. *vice* Parker.
C.S.M. King, A.	Posted to 6th Battn. Foresters, Chesterfield, and appointed Acting R.S.M.
C.S.M. Gibson, J.	Posted to 1st Battn. on reduction of Depot Establishment.
C.S.M. Farley, J.	Ditto.
C.Q.M.S. Shelton, J. H. (D.C.M.)	Ditto.
C.Q.M.S. Pain, W. J.	Ditto.
C.Q.M.S. Richards, G. W. (M.M.)	Ditto.
Sgt.-Dmr. Mortimer, A.	Ditto.
C.Q.M.S. Mortimer, L.	To 2nd Battn. Foresters to fill an existing vacancy.
C.S.M. Unwin, A.	Ditto.
C.S.M. Underwood, H. (D.C.M., M.M.)	Ditto.

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The following Old Comrades have answered the Last Call. As many as possible were given Full Military Honours by the Depot Staff :—

Pte. Astle, J. . . .	An occupant of the Regimental Cottage Homes, believed to be the last Regimental survivor of the Mutiny. Buried in Mickleover Churchyard. Military Honours.
Sgt. Fulton, H. . . .	Latterly employed as Sgt.-Instr. with 5th Battn. at Ilkeston. Died very peacefully in his sleep. Full Military Honours.
C.S.M. Newcombe, G. . .	A most popular Sgt.-Instr. of the 5th Battn. at Ripley. Full Military Honours by 5th Battn.
Pte. Fearn, G. . . .	Died in Royal Infirmary, Derby. Late C Company, 2nd Battn. Buried by O.C.A. and Military Honours by Depot.
Sgt.-Mtr. Tailor Igo, P. . .	Died at Derby after a lingering illness. Buried in Nottingham Road Cemetery, Derby. Full Military Honours by Depot.
R.S.M. Tomlinson, G. . .	1st and 2nd Battns. Also Indian unattached List. Died in Royal Infirmary, Derby, after a short illness. Buried with full Military Honours.

The following ex-Foresters have been located in Civil Life, and from all accounts are very prosperous :—

ex-Dmr. Jones, A. E. . .	Took his discharge from 2nd Battn. during their tour of duty in Egypt. Now serving with the Egyptian Police.
ex-Sgt. Wilson, J. . . (D.C.M., M.M.)	Well known as Transport Sgt., 2nd Battn. Now discharged and employed in Egypt with the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
ex-Corpl. Tomlinson, G.	2nd Battn. Discharged in Egypt and now Manager of St. George's Hall, Mustapha.
ex-C.Q.M.S. Potts, A. . .	2nd Battn. Discharged to pension and living in Burton-on-Trent. Employed as Insurance Agent.
ex-C.S.M. Tarpey, J. . .	2nd Battn. Discharged to pension and employed as Caretaker of Council Schools at Nottingham.

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ex-C.Q.M.S. Daykin, H.	1st and 2nd Battns. Well known in the Officers' Messes of both Battns. Discharged to pension and employed as Civilian Officers' Mess Steward, Depot.
ex-Bd.-Mtr. Howarth, S.	Well known as late Bandmaster of 2nd Battn. Now employed as Sergeants' Mess Caterer, Depot.
ex-C.Q.M.S. Howarth, S.	Son of above. Was Band-Sgt. of 2nd Battn. After the War served with 2nd Battn. in Egypt and Chanak. Now to pension and employed at Depot as Civilian Orderly Room Clerk.
ex-Sgt. Blythe, F.	2nd Battn. Served during the War with 12th Battn. (Pioneers). Discharged to pension and employed as Registrar at General Cemetery, South Wigston, Leicester.
ex-Sgt.-Mtr.-Ck. Brannon, W.	Well known as a Signaller in the old 2nd Battn. Served during the War with 9th and 3rd Battns. as Sgt.-Mtr.-Cook. Discharged to pension from 1st Battn. Now living in Derby and proprietor of a motor bus.
ex-R.Q.M.S. Warmer, C. (D.C.M., M.M.)	Granted Commission as Quartermaster and posted to 2nd Battn. *vice* Lt.-Col. F. Tomlinson, O.B.E., M.C., to retired pay.
ex-C.Q.M.S. Bastow, E.	Discharged to pension and working and living in Shropshire.
ex-R.S.M. Hobbs, C.	Well known as "Captain," was Sgt.-Major of 2nd Battn. on re-formation. Now to pension and residing in Egypt.

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XXII

THE ANNUAL REGIMENTAL DINNER, 1923,

OFFICERS, 1ST AND 2ND BTNS. 45TH AND 95TH

THE Annual Regimental Dinner of the above was held on the 2nd June at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, when the following past and present officers attended: Lieut.-Gen. the Rt. Hon. Sir F. C. Shaw, K.C.B., in the Chair; Major-Gen. Sir F. B. Maurice, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Brig.-Gens. G. G. Cunningham, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., F. C. Godley, M.V.O., H. A. Iggulden, C.I.E., P. Leveson-Gower, C.M.G., D.S.O., J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., and O. C. Wolley-Dod, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.; Cols. P. H. Dalbiac, C.B., E. C. Dowse, J. McCleverty, and H. C. Wylly, C.B.; Lt.-Cols. W. D. S. Brownrigg, D.S.O., C. D. Christopher, L. Gordon-Cumming, J. H. Hallowes, L. Impey, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., R. H. Keller, O.B.E., D.S.O., R. G. Munn, C.M.G., A. S. Murray, O.B.E., J. A. Reeks, O.B.E., F. Tomlinson, O.B.E., M.C., A. B. Wayte, D.S.O., B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., K. C. Weldon, D.S.O., and J. H. Wybergh; Majors L. A. Bagshawe, E. N. T. Collin, E. A. G. Gosset, C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., C. E. Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., H. B. Hume, O.B.E., C. C. Parkinson, M.V.O., A. E. B. Parsons, O.B.E., D.S.O., F. Porter, H. V. Rhodes, O.B.E., and W. H. Wilkin; Capts. B. G. Allen, C. C. S. Crofton, G. D. Edwards, F. E. Jones, M.C., J. A. M. Lang, O.B.E., M.C., H. L. B. Mills, N. S. Temple, M.C., R. B. Tower, M.C., J. D'a Whicher, J. S. Wilkinson, D.S.O., M.C., H. B. D. Willcox, D.S.O., M.C., and A. C. Willison, D.S.O., M.C.; Lieuts. H. F. Coleman, C. A. Gamble, R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., R. G. Milward, J. K. L. Roberts, and C. H. A. Sturge; 2nd Lieuts. S. O. Boyd, A. de B. Morris, and P. N. White—a total of 58, which is very nearly a record. Col. F. Tomlinson was the guest of the evening, and opportunity was taken of presenting to him and to Col. Wylly pieces of plate which

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had been subscribed for by their brother officers old and young. The healths of both these officers were proposed in felicitous terms by the Chairman, who also read telegraphic and other messages of good will received from the Colonel of the Regiment and other officers who, from various causes, had been prevented from attending.

The Reunion of the Ladies of the Regiment on the same afternoon at the Hyde Park Hotel was very well attended.

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XXIII

"A SHERWOOD FORESTER'S GRAVE"

THE O.C. Depot has sent the following extract from a letter received by him lately from Mrs. Sherbrooke: "Amongst the hills overlooking Vevey on the Lake of Geneva a very impressive service recently took place. Five British soldiers who had been prisoners of war in Germany and who died in Switzerland were brought to Vevey to be reburied in the beautiful cemetery given by the Swiss Government for that purpose. Sixty-eight bodies are already there, and a tombstone with the badge of the Regiment marks each resting-place. A very handsome cross is in the centre, with appropriate words; grass surrounds each grave and also a low hedge to separate it from the Swiss portion. It was a very solemn service, admirably read by the British Chaplain, and largely attended by the English residents of Vevey, and the cemetery is in charge of Col. Gillespie and Major de la Harpe of the Swiss Army. Amongst those present were Mrs. Wauchope Mrs. Sherbrooke.

Pte. John Harding, 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters, who died on the 3rd December, 1918, is buried here."

(A photograph of this cemetery will be found facing page 143.—ED.)

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XXIV

THE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting, 1923

THE Twelfth Annual General Meeting was held in Room 75 of the Mechanics' Institute, Nottingham, on Saturday, 20th October, 1923.

The President of the Association, Gen. Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., was in the chair, supported by Brig.-Gen. J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., and Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O. (President of the Executive Committee), with an attendance of about 120 members.

Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell reported on the general work of the Association, whilst Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., Chairman of the Benevolent Committee, gave a report on the work of the Benevolent Committee. The Secretary then read the statement of accounts to date, which showed the total credit of the Association to be £6,784 1s. 3d. The reports and statement were considered to be satisfactory, the Chairman remarking that the financial condition of the Association was good.

Lt.-Col. Dumbell, as Treasurer of the Memorial Committee, gave particulars relating to the work of the erection of the regimental memorial at Crich. Several questions were raised, one drawing special attention to the erection of the caretaker's cottage, which was to be built, and the Government subsidy of £6 per year for twenty years, which it was hoped would be taken advantage of, when the building was erected.

Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D., speaking in the absence of the President of the Memorial Committee (Col. G. D. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D.), said that Col. Goodman wished him to say that he much regretted his inability to be present,

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but would like them to know that in his opinion the memorial would undoubtedly be a financial success.

The question of the memorial being handed over to the Association was deferred to a later date.

The present Secretary and Treasurer (Mr. Glover) having notified his intention of not again seeking re-election, Lt.-Col. F. Tomlinson, O.B.E., M.C., was elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. A proposal, submitted by Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., to separate the office of secretary from that of treasurer was withdrawn. The Executive Committee was re-elected. It was also agreed that in addition to the present members of the Executive Committee the district representatives in the counties of Nottingham and Derbyshire be *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee while serving as district representatives. The Benevolent Committee was also re-elected, and the Chairman (Major McGuire) spoke of his willingness to continue on the Committee, but hoped it would soon be found possible to relieve him. The President replied that perhaps Lt.-Col. Tomlinson would be able to take the chairmanship of that committee next year should Major McGuire still wish to retire. The district representatives were re-elected, and it was agreed that Nottingham should also have a district representative.

The action of the Executive Committee in disposal of War Stock, and authorising the purchase of local loans (through the United Services Trustee), was confirmed.

It was agreed to accept the suggestion of Col. H. C. Wylly, C.B., to form an " Old Comrades' Association Guest Fund," and that this fund, which should be used for the purpose of inviting guests to the Annual Dinner, should be known as " The Wylly Guest Fund of the Old Comrades' Association." The rules governing the fund were then carried. It was also agreed, on the proposal of the President, " that the sum of £120 be transferred to the Wylly Guest Fund from the General Fund of the Association."

A proposal submitted by Brig.-Gen. Roy that the audit of the accounts should in future be done by a chartered accountant was lost by the Chairman's casting vote, and the retiring Auditors (the Adjutant of the Depot and ex-Colour-Sergt. A. Hallam) were again elected.

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It was agreed that the next annual gathering take place at Derby, on the third Saturday in October.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O., and seconded by Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., that the Regimental Cottage Homes be taken over by the Old Comrades' Association. A list of applicants for accommodation to be recommended by the Benevolent Committee, and the final selection to be made by the Executive Committee. A statement of the homes and accounts by the officer commanding the depot to be included in the annual report. This was carried.

It was proposed by Mr. Ludlow, and seconded by Mr. Harrison, that " in order to keep alive the feelings of admiration that we have for those of our comrades who during the war made the supreme sacrifice, a yearly pilgrimage be made to the regimental memorial by the members of this Association." This was agreed to.

After some little discussion it was agreed that the anniversary of the date of the unveiling of the memorial, i.e. Bank Holiday (August), be selected as the date for the carrying out of the above proposal, and that the details be left in the hands of the Executive Committee in conjunction with the district representatives.

REPORT ON THE GENERAL WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION

In submitting the usual report on the work of the Association during this year, the Executive Committee are glad to be able to report that the membership of the Association is still increasing.

At the end of last year the membership was 1126, and to-day stands at 1340, an increase of slightly over 200. The Committee consider this is a gratifying result, in view of the fact that during the last four years it has been possible to report an increase of 200 members per annum, and if this progress is still maintained, which all hope will be the case, our membership will soon become more consistent with what ought reasonably to be expected to be the case, having

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regard to the large numbers from which our Association could draw their members within the two counties.

This steady increase is due in no small measure to the work of our District Representatives, although it is only fair to add that there are others who are quite as keen in this matter, and who send along their quota of new members during the year.

There is no doubt that the Association is now reaping the advantage of the fact that in some of our districts, especially Chesterfield, Ripley, Bulwell, Mansfield, and Sutton-in-Ashfield, there is a fairly good organisation of our members, and the Executive Committee would like to strongly recommend this fact to our other districts who are not yet organised. Organise our members, and new members are sure to follow. It may be noted in passing that branches are now in course of formation at Nottingham and also at Long Eaton.

While on this question of organisation, the Executive Committee would like to draw attention to the excellent plan adopted in the Alfreton and Ripley District, where a successful Branch Dinner was held early in the year, and to-day this district is in a flourishing condition, and is continually adding members to our Association.

This closer association with each other also enables any benevolent cases among our members to be brought to the notice of the Benevolent Committee without any undue delay.

Financially, the Association is in a good condition, as will be seen by the Statement of Accounts attached to this report.

There have been no substantial grants made to the funds of the Association this year, but ordinary contributions have been well maintained.

Several of our members have died during the year. Special mention might be made of the death of Lt.-Col. A. W. Brewill, D.S.O., V.D., T.D., the architect who designed the Regimental Memorial at Crich, but unfortunately did not live to see the result of his work.

We also lost early in the year one of the members of our Executive Committee, ex-Q.M.S. A. Read, who had always shown a very keen interest in the work of the Association.

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REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE

From 1st of January to the 15th of October, 1923.

DURING the period under review, the Benevolent Committee have met at Nottingham, under the chairmanship of Major M. McGuire, O.B.E., on five occasions, and have had under consideration ninety-one cases, of which sixty-seven have been given financial assistance, five have been assisted in "other ways," and eighteen not assisted. The total cases involving an expenditure of £162 18s. 10d., as compared with £176 4s. 3d. expended during the whole of last year.

Stated briefly, the cases are as follows :—

Twenty-two in respect to illness ; seven for funeral expenses of ex-Foresters ; two for funeral expenses of families of ex-Foresters ; six cases of illness in family ; five cases of illness and unemployment ; seven cases for purchase of stock, and payment of arrears of rent, and other outstanding debts ; twenty cases of men on the road, in some of these food and shelter have been provided, and in others railway fares have been paid to various towns where the men seemed likely to be able to obtain employment ; three cases of old age ; in one case the railway fare of a boy of an ex-Forester was paid to enable him to be sent to a convalescent home for a week ; another case was that of the railway fare being paid for a man to be sent to Manchester to undergo an operation ; and in another one the Committee purchased a Bath-chair to enable an incurable to be taken out during the summer ; and the Committee also assisted a "consumptive" to meet the cost of erecting for himself a "shelter" in which to sleep.

Of the five cases "otherwise assisted" one was in respect to the completion of a pension case, which had been in progress for over a year. This case was brought to a successful issue, after an appeal, and resulted in a dependant's pension of 8s. 11d. per week being obtained. The other four cases in this class have reference to appeals which were made by the Committee to other Associations, and by so doing obtaining additional assistance.

The summary of the eighteen cases which were not assisted is as follows :—

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One, application for a loan; three, previously assisted; four, found on investigation not to be actually in need of assistance; four, the references were not considered satisfactory; four were out-of-work cases; and two found unsuitable for other reasons.

Of the whole cases under review, seventeen were in respect to our own members.

The Committee would like to make special mention of one case that has come to notice this year.

A man who was on the road last year was given a sum of money to get to a place where he said he was likely to obtain employment, and in addition was also given the name and address of one of our members who happened to be residing at the place to which the man was desirous of being sent, and fortunately our member was able to help the old soldier on to his feet again, and the man thus assisted set to work to repay the amount given by the Association, and the Committee have recently acknowledged the last instalment of the amount originally given. This incident is mentioned as being somewhat out of the ordinary, and is in striking contrast to other incidents which might be quoted.

A complete report of all cases assisted during the whole year will be given in the Annual Report.

List of Cases Assisted

	£	s.	d.
E.M.—Ill and unable to work. (Grant)	3	19	6
H.L.—Incurable case. Bath-chair purchased	5	10	0
M.D.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.H.I.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.T.—Bill for conveyance of baggage on arrival from abroad. (Paid.) Repayment promised	4	2	6
J.S.D.—Illness. Grant for purchase of underclothing	2	0	0
J.—Assisted on the way through the town, in search of work, and given train fare	0	10	0
G.G.—Illness. (Grant)	4	0	0
T.R.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	10	0
J.H.G.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
S.P.—Illness (Grant)	3	0	0

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	£	s.	d.
J.M.—Illness in family. (Grant)	2	0	0
A.S.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	6	0
G.W.—Grant towards payment of trade bills	3	10	0
W.S.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
G.W.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.G.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.W.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	2	6
J.Y.—Grant towards payment of arrears of rent	3	0	0
J.R.—Widow, in poor circumstances. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.H.—Illness of child. (Grant for purchase of nourishment)	1	0	0
J.H.B.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	5	0
G.S.C.—Grant for purchase of instrument to enable him to take up employment	1	10	0
T.L.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	1	19	11
A.P.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	2	0	0
H.A.W.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	4	8	0
R.W.—Illness and unemployment. (Grant)	3	0	0
W.H.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	5	0
J.B.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	5	0
W.W.—Illness. (Grant)	1	4	0
A.W.D.—Illness of boy. (Grant)	1	0	0
T.B.—Illness following accident at work. (Grant)	2	0	0
A.P.—Bill for conveyance of baggage on arrival from abroad. (Paid.) Repayment promised	3	0	0
G.E.—Rail fare, in search of work	0	6	0
C.T.P.—Funeral expenses	3	0	0
J.R.M.—Old age and unemployment. (Grant)	1	0	0
E.L.—Old age and illness. (Grant)	6	0	0
W.S.—Widow. Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
E.H.—Widow. Funeral expenses	5	0	0
W.T.—Illness and unemployment	3	0	0
D.R.—Funeral expenses of widow	4	0	0
H.G.—Widow. Funeral expenses	5	0	0
J.R.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.A.—Unemployment. (Grant to pay arrears of rent, etc.)	2	1	0
A.B.—Illness. (Grant to pay arrears of rent, etc.)	2	2	0

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	£	s.	d.
W.E.—Rail fare of sick boy to seaside	0	15	0
H.A.—Illness in family. (Grant)	5	0	0
E.M.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	2	6
J.M.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	2	6
G.S.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	12	6
T.R.—Assisted on the way through the town. (Twice)	0	5	0
J.W.—Assisted pending admission to hospital	0	3	0
H.W.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	15	0
C.M.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
W.C.—Rail fare to undergo operation	0	7	9
T.F.—Illness. (Grant)	2	10	0
A.C.—Illness. (Grant)	1	0	0
N.S.—Rail fare, in search of work	0	10	8
W.M.—Widow. Funeral expenses	3	0	0
P.B.—Rail fare, to take up employment	2	0	0
A.B.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
C.S.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
L.P.—Widow. Funeral expenses	1	1	0
J.N.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	5	0
W.B.—Grant for the purchase of tools	1	0	0
G.F.—Widow. Funeral expenses	8	0	0
T.W.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
H.W.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.V.—Grant towards erection of shelter. Consumptive case	2	0	0
J.J.F.—Widow. Funeral expenses	2	0	0
C.C.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
E.H.—Rail fare to join friends	0	15	0
J.G.H.—Illness. (Grant)	1	0	0
F.R.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
P.M.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	7	6
E.P.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	2	6
P.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	5	0
A.W.—Assisted on the way through the town	0	2	6
W.N.—Illness. (Grant)	3	0	0
W.W.—Illness. (Grant)	2	0	0
Total	£162	18	10

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Distribution by counties :—

Nottinghamshire	26
Derbyshire	24
Middlesex	7
Yorkshire	4
Others	11
No address	7
Total	79

CERTIFICATE

CERTIFIED that the following is the correct result of the REFERENDUM, as counted by the Executive Committee, which had been submitted to the members of the Association with the Annual Report for 1922.

(1) Are you in favour of the continuance of the existing Bye-Law 2, which provides that the Annual Gathering should take place at Nottingham and Derby, alternatively.

Number of votes in favour : 426.

2nd Batt., as reported by the Commanding Officer, unanimously in favour.

1st Batt., as reported by the Commanding Officer, out of about 340, 322 were in favour.

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or,

(2) Are you in favour of Bye-Law 2 being altered so as to have the Annual Gathering at the following towns : Nottingham, Chesterfield, Mansfield, Derby, in rotation.

Number of votes in favour : 171.

1st Batt., as reported by the Commanding Officer, out of about 340, 12 were in favour.

RESULT : for DINNERS at NOTTINGHAM and DERBY alternatively :—

Majority in favour : 565 ; plus unanimous opinion of the 1st and 2nd Battalions.

C. H. DUMBELL,
Lt.-Colonel,
President of the Executive Committee.

Normanton Barracks.

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REPORT ON CRICH MEMORIAL

THE work on Crich Memorial is now practically completed, and all that remains to be done is to provide a temporary shelter for the caretaker, and, if possible, lavatory accommodation.

In round figures, the cost of the tower, memorial bronzes, including all incidentals, has been £2,481. Preliminary expenses amounted to £550, and the Rolls of Honour to £585, making a total of £3,617.

The total subscriptions to date are £4,023 11s. 3d. Interest on deposit account being £59 8s. 9d.—total £4,083—leaving a balance of £465 in hand.

A caretaker, Mr. J. I. Woolley, of Crich, was appointed on the 21st July, on a temporary agreement. His wages to be £1 per week and 10 per cent of takings.

I am keeping a separate account of the opening and running expenses. The opening expenses amounted to £42, more than half of which was covered by the sale of post cards.

A charge of 3d. is made for ascending the tower, and takings to date amount to £123 7s. 3d. There is a balance in hand of £63 8s. 5d., plus a stock of 4655 post cards, which are being sold at 3d. each.

No decision has been come to as to when the beacon light shall be lighted, but until structural alterations become necessary, running expenses should not exceed £60 per annum.

Crich Stand has for many years been a holiday resort, and there is every prospect that the takings, sale of cards, etc., will amply cover the upkeep of the tower.

C. H. DUMBELL,
Lt.-Colonel,
Commanding Depot The Sherwood Foresters
(Hon. Treasurer Sherwood Foresters' Memorial Fund.)

Derby, 19*th October*, 1923.

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OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION GUEST FUND

1. It is thought that there must be many old soldiers of the Regiment whose means will not allow of their attending the Dinner and meeting old friends. It is proposed, therefore, to start a Guest Fund with the sum of £120, adding to it from time to time from the General Fund and special subscriptions, and using the interest therefrom to pay all the Dinner expenses, railway fare, dinner, etc., of such old soldiers of the Regiment who might otherwise not be able to attend.

2. The District Representative of the Old Comrades' Association be asked to keep lists of, and to find out, and to put themselves in communication with old soldiers of the Regiment whose means preclude them from attending, and that they send in to the Secretary for the Executive Committee, by 31st August each year, a carefully checked list of such old soldiers as they recommend being added to the Year's Guest Roll, certifying that they have personally investigated each case and consider it in every way deserving of recognition. The District Representatives, should, when recommending, give age, length of service, and where served, adding any decoration or distinction gained.

3. Care must be taken that the guests should realise that they are invited by reason of past good service in the Regiment and because the Executive Committee realise the increasing difficulty felt by those whose employment is precarious, or ill-paid, or who live at long distances, in enjoying the pleasures of the annual meeting open to those old soldiers more fortunately situated.

4. The Secretary of the Old Comrades' Association will keep a book of all recommendations received from District Representatives, showing place of residence, age, length of service, where served, any decoration or distinction gained, under the head of each district.

When an old soldier has attended a Dinner his name will go to the bottom of the list of his district with a note "Attended dinner—date."

N.B.—When his name comes up again the District Repre-

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sentative will be notified and asked for his recommendation or otherwise.

5. The Executive Committee will select guests according to their place of residence in relation to the place of the dinner, e.g. a deserving old soldier residing at Burton-on-Trent will be earmarked for the Derby Dinner, and one residing at Newark for Nottingham.

6. In the event of more names being submitted than funds permit of being provided for, preference will be given to older men and those who have served abroad.

7. It is not necessary for an old soldier to be a member of the Old Comrades' Association to enable him to be invited as a guest to the Annual Dinner.

8. All monies donated to the Guest Fund, either by individuals or from the General Fund, shall be invested with the United Service Trustee under the name of O.C.A. Guest Fund, and the dividends from the same be credited to the O.C.A. for payment of the expenses of the guests invited.

TWELFTH ANNUAL DINNER

THE annual gathering was held in the Victoria Baths Hall, Nottingham, on Saturday, 20th October, 1923, when there was an attendance of about three hundred members of the Association.

The chair was occupied by Gen. Sir H. L. Smith-Dorrien, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, and amongst the officers present were Brig.-Gens. J. W. G. Roy, C.M.G., P. Leveson-Gower, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Col. H. C. Wylly, C.B.; Lt.-Cols. L. Gordon-Cumming, C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O., T. H. M. Green, D.S.O., E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D., R. H. Keller, D.S.O., O.B.E., N. Gervis Pearson, D.S.O., M.C., W. R. Rook, O.B.E., T.D., F. Tomlinson, O.B.E., M.C., H. Tylden Wright, H. F. Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O., A. B. Wayte, D.S.O., J. H. Wybergh; Majors J. N. Meares, A. Wilson Shea, D.S.O., M. McGuire, O.B.E., C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., C. E. Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., L. R. Halford, M.C., F. Tyler; Rev. J. P. Hales, D.S.O., Capts. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., H. B. D. Willcox, D.S.O., M.C.

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After the loyal toast had been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed "The Old Comrades' Association," and said that as they were aware it was a great many years since he had the pleasure of being present at one of these gatherings. He had been away from England, and distance had made it impossible for him to attend. Since his last appearance at such a gathering a development had taken place of vast importance in every way. There had been an increase in the membership of the Association. In addition to the regular battalions they now had splendid support from all the county battalions. At the business meeting held that afternoon the question was raised whether it was advisable to have the Annual Dinner in four places, letting Chesterfield and Mansfield take their turn with Derby and Nottingham. A referendum was taken, and the proposal was knocked out. In future the dinners would be confined, as in the past, to Nottingham and Derby. He had not much news to give concerning the performances of the two regular battalions, but it would be satisfactory to know that all the reports were of the very best. The members of the Association might have seen the account which had been published concerning the 2nd Battalion leaving Constantinople. It was enormously gratifying to him, as colonel, to receive letters from Sir Charles Harington in which he spoke of the Battalion as second to none he had ever come across; they were out and away the best Battalion he had under his command in Constantinople. They had attained a pre-war standard of discipline and smartness as no other battalion had succeeded in doing. He looked upon their departure as a very serious loss, because things at that time were in a very unsettled state.

Proceeding, the Chairman said funds had been discussed at the meeting. Through having been away, the burden of bringing about the success of the Association had been borne by other shoulders, and he was intensely grateful to all the workers, including Mr. Glover, who was giving up the secretaryship on account of ill-health. The present membership was 1340, or 200 more than last year. At the officers' annual dinner advantage was taken to recognise the services of two very beloved officers, Col. Wylly and Col. Tomlinson, for what they had done for the Regiment. The presentation took

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the form of a piece of plate and a purse of money. The latter was refused, and with it a guest fund was formed to be called "The Wylly Guest Fund of the Old Comrades' Association." That afternoon a certain sum of money had been voted towards it, and, through the generosity of others, it amounted to £90. They thought it advisable to increase the sum so that the interest would enable them to have a certain number of old comrades as guests each year, and they had voted on the proposal that £120 be transferred from the Benevolent Fund. This meant a capital of £210, which would give them about £10 a year. Later, if it developed, he would suggest they went a little further. Col. Wylly had written the war history of the 1st and 2nd Battalions free of cost, and it was now complete. The number of volumes would be decided on shortly. The Chairman created considerable amusement by referring to certain passages in a letter he had received from Col. Wylly informing him of the completion of the war history. Col. Wylly mysteriously referred him to "Hymns Ancient and Modern, No. 401, line 1," and on looking into the matter he found the line "Now the lábourer's task is o'er." Col. Wylly had also given a Gospel reference which, on being investigated, read "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."

The war memorial had been discussed. At the dedication he was almost overcome when he saw such a wonderful gathering. Other battalions and regiments might have highly sculptured memorials, which would go down to all ages, but he was quite certain none could be more proud than they were. It would be most suitable if every year they tried to bring to memory what they owed to those great fellows who laid down their lives in the war, by the members of the Old Comrades' Association making a pilgrimage to the memorial. They had decided to try to adopt this idea, and it was going to be taken up by the representatives of the districts. The date suggested was August Bank Holiday, when the old comrades could reverently pay their respect, and battalions could lay wreaths on the memorial.

The speaker concluded by reading various telegrams which had been received, one being from the 2nd Battalion in India. Thanks were accorded to the colonel of the 7th Battalion (Robin Hoods) for the use of the band during the evening.

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The following programme of music was rendered by the band of the Robin Hoods, 7th Batt. Sherwood Foresters: March, "Imperial"; overture, "Lustspiel"; valse, "Bright Star"; selection, "Country Life"; fox trot, "Darling"; one step, "Money"; valse, "Peggy O'Neil"; march, "The Old Brigade"; fox trot, "Bananas"; popular songs; march, "Waveney"; regimental marches; National Anthem. Bandmaster R. B. Mills conducted.

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XXV

CORRESPONDENCE

YARTY HOUSE, AXMINSTER.

May 5th, 1923.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to the table of casualties in S. Africa in the "Annual" of 1911 (pp. 183–4), and my letter in the "Annual" of 1921. The former is incorrect, and the latter incomplete.

I find by referring to my Diary that Pte. Wheeldon of E Coy. was captured on May 22nd, 1900, near Heilbron, together with two of the C.I.V. and four men of Loch's Horse. They were escorting a waggon. Wheeldon was released with a lot of other prisoners when we reached Pretoria. He rejoined the Regiment at Vlakfontein (between Pretoria and Springs) on June 20th, 1900.

Thus three men were taken before the end of 1900 (when I left the Battalion for West Africa). Doubtless there were several afterwards. The late Major P. G. Rigby, writing to me on October 15th, 1901, said: "Marched through Ottoshoop to Lichtenberg. Went with Manby on a night show with Major Browne and 40 Yeomen to capture 30 Boers at Wildfontein. Trotted all night, got about 150 cattle (6 a.m.), and were followed up by 200 Boers. Handley caught. Galloped 8 miles. Did nearly 40 miles. All horses done. . . . Handley came in without boots."

W. H. WILKIN.

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